FBIS DAILY REPORT

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GENEVA DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE CONCLUDES DISCUSSIONS

LD071105Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[Special correspondents I. Melnikov and A. Serbin dispatch: "Pooling Efforts; at the International Disarmament Conference on Nongovernmental Organizations"]

[Text] Geneva, 2 March--The international disarmament conference of nongovernmental organizations ended late this evening in the Geneva Palace of Nations. For 4 days its work was filled with discussions, reports on the course of the struggle against militarist circles waged by national and international organizations and a discussion of the draft reports and final document--the message to be sent to the forthcoming special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament.

The atmosphere of the Geneva forum was influenced by the diversity of the delegates' approach to resolving the problem of disarmament and also the obviously biased course of a certain sector of the Western press, which tried to hamper the meeting's development and to distort its aims. However, the conference overcame the difficultues after elaborating a joint approach reflecting the fact that the peace-loving forces of all continents are united in the struggle against the arms race.

Eric Burhop, a well-known British scholar and president of the World Federation of Scientific Workers, in a conversation with us, assessed the nature of the work of the conference: "The heterogeneity of the political spectrum of the Geneva meeting did not hinder discussion of the burning problem of disarmament, which concerns all people. Practically all the delegations made a contribution to the preparations for the special UN General Assembly session. It is gratifying that a protest against the neutron bomb, a monstrous instrument of mass human annihilation, resounded in full voice in the Palace of Nations."

The conference participating came out decisively in favor of nuclear disarmament, condemned attempts to introduce neutron weapons into the arsenal of war and demanded a ban on all means of mass destruction. The idea of convening a world disarmament conference received wide support.

An analysis of the work of the Geneva conference shows that as a result of good will and the desire for agreement, a position has been elaborated here which makes it easier for the voice of the world public to ring out loudly at the special UN disarmament session. Here it must be noted that the most important provisions of the conference documents overlap Soviet initiatives in the field of disarmament. This is no coincidence. Submitting proposals in the name of achieving general and complete disarmament and in the name of saving mankind from nuclear catastrophe, the Soviet Union proceeds from the tasks of deepening international detente and establishing lasting peace serving the interests of all peoples.

At the final plenary session the delegates unanimously adopted a message to the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament. It contains an appeal to adopt decisive measures against the arms race and for the cessation of the development, production and deployment of new types of mass destruction weapons, primarily the neutron bomb.

Romesh Chandra, president of the WPC, addressed the final session.

TASS ANNOUNCES ADOPTION OF CSCE FINAL DOCUMENT

LD081540Y Moscow TASS in English 1532 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade, March 8, TASS--A final document was adopted at today's plenary meeting of the Belgrade follow-up Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The final document expresses the determination of the governments of the participating countries to continue the process of strengthening security and cooperation in Europe which was started by the heads of state and government at the European conference in Helsinki in 1975.

After the final document was adopted, the leaders of delegations taking part in the Belgrade meeting began delivering final speeches.

SOVIET CSCE REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS ON FINAL DOCUMENT

LD081807Y Moscow TASS in English 1738 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade, March 8, TASS--Yuliy Vorontsov, the head of the USSR delegation at the Belgrade meeting, in an interview with a TASS correspondent, said he sees the main result of the meeting in the fact that voiced in Belgrade more than once in the course of the five months were statements about a great historic significance of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, about the necessity to make further efforts to implement fully the provisions of the final act which was signed in Helsinki in 1975 at summit level and which remains the agreed-upon program for strengthening peace, security and cooperation in Europe for many years ahead.

The manifest consensus on this score, reflected in the meeting's final document, is a not unimportant positive result of the Belgrade forum, the Soviet representative emphasized.

Upset at the meeting were the attempts at leading the process started in Helsinki into a dangerous deadlock of interference in the internal affairs of states, which would be an intolerable outrage on the very idea of European cooperation and the drawing of countries and peoples closer together. This we also regard as a positive result of the Belgrade meeting, he said.

Setting out the stand of the Soviet delegation at the Belgrade meeting, Yuliy Vorontsov pointed out that for the Soviet state the line of implementation of the Helsinki accords became part of the Leninist course towards peaceful coexistence of countries with different social systems. On the days of the work of the Belgrade meeting, the Soviet Union vividly and convincingly demonstrated the firm political will to follow the way trailed in Helsinki, by reflecting in its new Constitution all the ten principles of mutual relations between states recorded in the final act.

The Soviet Union came to the Belgrade meeting with an extensive program of future-oriented practical proposals: On matters of military detente in Europe, on expansion of European cooperation in the field of the protection of the environment, transport and energy, etc.

We believe that the proposals submitted by the Soviet Union will find their practical manifestation in future, since they meet the aspirations of the peoples of our continent, the representative of the USSR said.

During the Belgrade meeting it became obvious that not all delegations arrived here with a view to working out practical recommendations aimed at strengthening security and developing cooperation in Europe, at deepening detente and at widening mutual understanding and trust, Yuliy Vorontsov said.

As is known, the delegation of the USA and some of their fellow thinkers from NATO from the very first days of the Belgrade forum and throughout its work directed their efforts towards diverting the meeting to the course of psychological warfare, to turning it into an arena of ideological clashes. Instead of efforts to strengthen mutual understanding and trust between states and peoples in Europe, they tried to sow the seeds of discord and suspiciousness, enlisting for the purposes the extensive propagandist apparatus. Evading the discussion of the burning problems of European security, and, first of all, matters aimed at restraining the arms race in Europe and matters of detente in the military field, those delegations tried to switch the meeting's attention to another subject: to defy socialist countries in the sphere of human rights and cooperation in humanitarian fields.

But those attempts are known to have ended in utter failure, he said in conclusion. And it could not be otherwise. Really, it is only upon losing any sense of reality that one can try to cast a shadow on the practice of real socialism where the working person is in the centre of the state's and society's attention and care.

'FIASCO' AT BELGRADE PROMPTS U.S. ANTI-FINNISH CAMPAIGN

LD050834Y Moscow TASS in English 0824 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 5 TASS--The Belgrade meeting, PRAVDA writes, was faced with the task which was clearly defined by the final act: to have a thorough exchange of views both on the implementation of the provisions of the final act and of the tasks defined by the conference, as well as, in the context of the questions dealt with by the latter, on the deepening of the their mutual relations, the improvement of security and the development of cooperation in Europe, and the development of the process of detente in the future". Some NATO strategists for many months stubbornly tried to divert the attention of the forum from this task, to replace a useful discussion with a 'psychological warfare' operation. Arthur Goldberg, an experienced master of subversive affairs, was sent to Belgrade for this purpose. But his propagandist speeches are certain to be forgotten, since there was nothing positive in them. Another thing will remain. The valuable initiatives of the USSR and other socialist states on realisation of the Helsinki accords, the useful proposals by neutral and some Western states, proposals which were thoroughly discussed in Belgrade with benefit for the cause. They are on the European agenda and will be considered in a businesslike manner and translated into life. The realisation of the final act is a long-term process. The headway started in Helsinki is going on.

Having suffered a fiasco with the 'psychological operation' in Belgrade, the opponents of detente in a fit of impotent rage attacked--Helsinki, PRAVDA goes on. The diplomaed American anti-communists Lucker, Sulzberger and Ginsburg raised hullabaloo about a 'loss of independence by Finland' and went to the lengths of rude attacks on President Urho Kekkonen. One does not expect anything but nasty doings from those "hawks" from beyond the ocean. Noteworthy is another thing: The attack on Finland's peaceful policy is coordinated by the U.S. State Department. This is an attempt with utterly poor means. Soviet-Finnish relations are and will remain a model example of peaceful coexistence in action.

END TO 'COLD WAR' IN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT URGED

LD021313Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 9, 24 Feb 78 pp 4-6 LD

[V. Samarin article: "The Strength of the Working People Lies in Their Unity"]

[Text] The Ninth World Congress of Trade Unions will be held in Prague from 16 through 23 April 1978. Active preparation for it has already begun in many countries. In trade union circles it is being accompanied by animated discussion concerning important issues like the principles and forms for the further intensification of trade union unity, the task of raising the efficiency and improving the methods of their international centers' activity, the expansion of cooperation among trade unions of different political orientations operating under the conditions of different sociopolitical systems, and so forth.

The interest in these questions is perfectly understandable. The transition to the relaxation of international tension, which has become possible above all thanks to the efforts of the socialist countries, has created favorable conditions for improving mutual understanding between trade unions. The practical requirements of the struggle for peace and for the socioeconomic demands of the working people, against the tyranny of the transnational monopolies and for a way out of the present crisis, also promote joint trade union stances and united action on a regional and international scale.

Two all-European conferences that have already been held, one of which was devoted to problems of safeguarding the natural and production environment and the other, in addition, to the problem of vocational education, demonstrate the fact that in recent years relations between the trade unions of different orientations on a bilateral and multilateral basis have become broader. Taking part in these conferences were trade unions belonging to all three international associations--the WFTU, the World Confederation of Labor (which until 1968 bore the title of International Federation of Christian Trade Unions) and the ICFTU. For a number of years contacts have been made between two of them--the WFTU and the World Confederation of Labor. The fruitful sector conferences of trade unions are also indicative of this trend. In recent years the opinion has been expressed with increasing persistence (particularly by the British Trades Union Congress) that it is essential to establish contacts between the WFTU and the ICFTU. The possibility of further steps in this direction is facilitated by the fact that the ICFTU was obliged at the beginning of the seventies to repeal its former ban on contacts between the trade unions of capitalist and socialist countries.

But this does not mean that no complications are envisaged on the path toward united trade union action. The leaders of the AFL-CIO are offering particularly active resistance to the positive changes which have been outlined in the international trade union movement.

Naturally, in this new situation a serious dicussion is underway in the ranks of the trade union movement with regard to the prospects of the struggle for unity and questions on how to make fuller and better use of the opportunities opening up in the interests of strengthening the working people's collaboration and solidarity. A search is being conducted for new forms of international activity and the improvement of organizational structures, and new methods of cooperation among trade unions are being suggested. The WFTU is also paying a great deal of attention to these tasks on the treshold of the Ninth World Congress. In principle this is an important and vital matter, since stagnation and satisfaction with what has been achieved are harmful to every living and developing movement, particularly to such a mass movement as the trade union movement.

Toward New Frontiers of Working People's Solidarity

Everyone knows that the WFTU is the largest international trade union association, created immediately after the end of World War II and embodying the best aspirations of the working masses of the whole world, who bore the main brunt of the struggle against fascism and reaction. The WFTU has actively opposed those forces responsible for kindling the cold war. Frequently in past years it has been precisely the WFTU's initiatives in the struggle for peace and in support of the people struggling for liberation and the struggle for social justice which have promoted the activation of the entire world trade union movement and the broad development of solidarity.

Today the WFTU's efforts are aimed at further developing united action in the ranks of the organized working people and at making that united action more effective in defense of their interests on a class basis. In acting thus and eliminating shortcomings in its work, the WFTU is seeking to overcome obstacles on the path of drawing together trade unions belonging to different international centers.

No one will dispute the fact that the present split in the world trade union movement is a legacy of the cold war. But those who think that they can rid themselves of this legacy and settle fundamental problems of united action exclusively by the WFTU's rejection of the basic principles of its activity are wrong. Such an act would benefit only the strategists of anticommunism and supporters of the continuation of the cold war in the trade union movement. An end can be put to the past only by struggling for business-like, equal and increasingly expanding cooperation among the three trade union centers under the sign of united action in defense of the working people's vital interests, world peace and the people's security. An increasingly large number of points of contact, caused by the unification of goals and methods of struggle, are emerging on this path. All that is needed is good will for the attainment of unity.

Everything said above in no way means that the present structure and entire activity of the WFTU are perfect and in need of no improvement. The forthcoming Ninth World Congress of Trade Unions is an excellent opportunity for constructive discussion. But it must serve the interests of improving matters and of perfecting the work of this international organization, which the working people of the whole world need.

"Regionalization"--Pros and Cons

In the world trade union movement, as in the WFTU's activity, a large part is played by regional problems and issues which are sometimes considered strictly professional. A trade union center which strives to be closer to the requirements of various detachments of working people in various parts of the world cannot ignore them.

The desire for unity and cooperation among trade unions of different regions, not to mention ties and contacts conditioning this unity of trade unions as a whole and of individual professional associations, is a natural process. The need for this is felt with particular insistence in the present-day world, where various forms of interstate economic and political integration have become widespread.

The active process of rapprochement of trade unions working under similar conditions on each continent has been observed recently. This unification in the interests of the struggle for common aims is easy to explain and cannot give rise to any objections. Proceeding from this premise it should seemingly have been possible to welcome wholly the creation in 1973 of the European Trade Union Confederation [ETUC]. [paragraph continues]

Pub in [illegible]tion, which to a certain extent did indeed reflect the demands of the workin[illegible]peopl[illegible] [illegible]nable us to insure truly all-European cooperation covering the trade unions of both Western and Eastern Europe.

In this connection it is appropriate to recall that at the creation of the ETUC, voices were heard warning against too narrow an understanding of its regional nature. V. Feather, the ETUC's first president and, at the time, general secretary of Britain's Trades Union Congress, said in an interview that the new confederation had "rejected the principle of ideological or religious exclusiveness. The doors of the ETUC are open to all European trade unions.... We do not doubt that in the future it will be jointed by trade unions of the socialist countries. This reflects the logic of the present state of affairs in the international trade union movement, which is characterized by a strengthening propensity for international contacts and cooperation."

One cannot help agreeing with the viewpoint on trade union unity which Georges Seguy, secretary general of France's General Confederation of Labor, expressed in his book "Struggle!," published in 1975 in Paris. International working people's solidarity, the book stresses, brooks no division into "blocs." "I think that the future of the European trade union movement lies in creating a mighty, unified trade union center which unites all our continent's working people," G. Seguy writes.

Unfortunately, other winds have begun to blow lately in the ETUC.

Perfectly satisfied with its closed, "bloc" character, it has now stopped talking of the prospects of transforming the confederation into a really all-European organization. Incidentally, even certain West European trade union organizations are barred from joining the ETUC on ideological grounds.

Talking about the results of the last (September 1977) session of the ETUC Executive Committee in Geneva, Aldo Bonaccini, secretary of an Italian trade union federation--the Italian General Confederation of Labor--calls the ETUC leadership's refusal to allow the French General Confederation of Labor and the Spanish Workers' Commission to participate in a seminar on migrant workers' problems [problemy emigratsii] "a most scandalous fact." "Even the Italian trade unions' proposal that the unification of trade unions on a regional basis, even with all the definite pluses which this yields on certain practical issues, cannot be implemented at the expense of weakening the broad international ties of working class solidarity. Isolation from the world class alliance whose expression is the WFTU, and still more, the substitution of individual regional associations would be a step backward in the development of trade union unity.

At a time when big capital is becoming increasingly international, the workers movement simply cannot permit itself to be less cohesive than its enemies. It is also clear that the regional and also national potential of trade unions in the struggle for the successful solution of the fundamental issues of our time can be fully realized by the working people only in combination and unity with the worldwide struggle of the forces of the workers movement, national liberation, peace and socialism.

Trade Unions and Socialism

The position and role of trade unions in the socialist countries, where power belongs to the working people, differs from the position of trade unions in the capitalist countries where big capital rules the roost. Under capitalism, trade unions struggle against capitalist exploitation by the monopolies and the bourgeois state, which violate the interests of the working people's masses. Under socialism they take a full part in the administration of the economy and social affairs in the interests of the broad masses of the working people.

However, this in no way means that the socialist countries' trade unions, and primarily Soviet trade unions, are overly involved in the administration of the economy and state affairs in general, to the detriment of their protective functions, and so are not democratic and independent.

"It is the essential concern of trade unions to protect the interests of labor," L. I. Brezhnev stressed in the article published in PROBLEMY MIRA I SOTSIALIZMA No 12 for 1977. "They act resolutely and sternly when some enterprise leaders forget the norms of labor legislation and working people's social needs. Last year, about 10,000 such administrators were relieved of their duties at the demand of trade union committees."

Is this not testimony to trade unions' independence and potential under the conditions of socialism? I do not think that I have ever heard of any important capitalist or bureaucrat manager in the capitalist West ever being fired for similar misdeeds at the demand of a trade union.

It is also said that the CPSU "supplants" trade unions and deprives them of all independence. Like the country's other mass social organizations, our trade unions recognize and accept the Communist Party's leadership. But the CPSU implements this leadership by democratic methods, via its members in the trade unions, who enjoy complete trust there. Therefore it is not a question of the party "supplanting" the trade unions and depriving them of independence, but of relations which have taken shape historically and which are entirely in accordance with the interests of socialist and communist building.

In different countries political parties' influence on trade unions takes shape and is implemented in different ways. This is normal practice in the modern world; it is for precisely this reason that trade unions exist with communist, socialist and Christian orientations.

The Eighth World Congress of Trade Unions stressed the tremendous benefits of cooperation among the trade unions of the capitalist, socialist and liberated countries and of in-depth study by all the world's working people of the diverse experience of the socialist countries. Nothing has happened in the last 4 years to shake the correctness of these conclusions or to cast doubt on the possibility and value of such cooperation within or outside of the WFTU framework. Moreover, it can be said that today the need for this cooperation is felt more strongly than ever.

The WFTU has always been and remains an open organization for those who desire to develop fruitful contacts in the international trade union movement and to utilize the mighty force of working people's solidarity. In this connection it will be recalled that more than 110 of the 170 regional, national and other trade union organizations, which participated in the work of the Eighth World Congress of Trade Unions, did not belong to the WFTU. [paragraph continues]

The working commission to prepare for the Ninth World Congress of Trade Unions has also included trade union organizations which are not WFTU members.

The approaching Ninth World Congress of Trade Unions provides an opportunity for broad consideration of all the federation's activity. Justified complaints about its activity may certainly be expressed during the comradely discussion, and ways of improving it may be found by common consent. The trade unions of the USSR and of the other socialist countries are by no means opposed to such comradely, constructive discussion both before and during the congress.

Concerning the question of the need for frank discussion, with the WFTU framework, of the most urgent problems of the development of contemporary society and of trade unions' role in it, AUCCTU Chairman A.I. Shibayev said at the 17th WFTU Bureau session in Buadepest at the end of last year: "...We deem discussion which contributes to mutual understanding, cooperation and solidarity in our ranks to be natural and desirable. Of course, interference in internal affairs must be ruled out here." We realize, A.I. Shibayev added, that the forces of reaction and monopoly capital, which constantly attack the WFTU for its progressive, class position, will certainly attempt to utilize for their own interests the discussion within its ranks of acute and urgent problems of the trade union movement. Despite this, we subscribe to the opinion that frank discussion, on the scale of the international trade union movement, of the various questions of principle concerning trade unions' activity in the contemporary, changing world is advisable.... We see no reason to exclude the theme of the place and role of trade unions under conditions of socialism from the range of problems discussed. However, it is important to realize that it is unrealistic and invalid to apply the yardsticks and ideas prevailing under the conditions of capitalist society in order to characterize the various aspects of their activity.

Thus, as we can see, there is a common interest in further improving all the WFTY's activity through joint efforts and in making it an organization that is more efficient and effective at upholding working people's interests. In this sense the preparation and holding of the Ninth World Congress of Trade Unions could be a really historic landmark.

WORKING PEOPLE PLACE HOPES IN UPCOMING WFTU CONGRESS

ID031651Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 26 Feb 78 p 3 ID

[Article by AUCCTU Secretary P. Pimenov: "To Strengthen Unity and Solidarity"]

[Text] On 16 April this year, the emissaries of the multimillion-strong army of working people united by various trade union organizations will assemble in Prague at the Ninth World Trade Union Congress.

The WFTU, which is holding the congress, represents the progressive trend in the international trade union movement. This is evidenced by the history of its creation in 1945 on the wave of the people's antifascist struggle. It is proved by the entire daily activity of the WFTU, which is devoted to the noble ideals of defending the interests of the working people, peace, democracy and social progress.

The progressive trade union movement is based today on the alliance of the three basic revolutionary forces of the present day--world socialism, the international proletariat and the national liberation movement. This can be seen particularly graphically from the example of the WFTU, in which trade union centers of the socialist, capitalist and developing countries cooperate hand in hand and wage a joint struggle for the interests of the working people.

The fact that the working class has now finally and irrevocably taken its place at the center of all contemporary social life is making new demands on the trade union movement.

As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, stressed at the 16th Soviet Trade Union Congress, the workers movement is becoming an increasingly important factor of social progress. At the same time its responsibility to history is growing more and more. From this follows the need for the further strengthening of the unity of the world labor army--for unity in the struggle for social progress and in the struggle for the peace and security of the people.

It is precisely in this direction that preparations have been mounted, and are now under way, for the Ninth World Trade Union Congress and it is on this, above all, that efforts were concentrated during the drafting of the congress' documents--"the orientation and action document" and the "universal declaration of trade union rights." These drafts have now been published and are being widely discussed in the international trade union movement and in the federation's affiliated organizations.

The documents show that the WFTU, maintaining the continuity of class concepts, is striving tirelessly to insure that its activity accords as fully as possible with the requirements of the day and the requirements of the broad masses of the working people. They also show that the WFTU is persistently seeking ways to expand its influence in insuring the security of the people, deepening detente, improving the socioeconmic position of the working people and galvanizing the process of establishing cooperation among the various currents of the workers' movement.

These problems will be at the focus of attention at the Ninth World Trade Union Congress. The discussion of these problems is not only of great practical significance, but also of great theoretical significance. It is primarily a question of how and in what forms the workers proletarian solidarity is being manifested today in the activity of the trade unions working under differing social conditions, as well as a question of the basis and content of this solidarity. This is not an idle question, and it is provoking differing interpretations in connection with the complexity of the processes of social development.

Even bourgeois propaganda does not bypass this question when, as always, it turns everything upside down. Briefly, the thesis of the ideologists of capitalism amounts to the following: Since the trade unions of the socialist and the capitalist countries have their own specific conditions, they cannot have a serious basis for cooperation. The latest attempt is thereby being made to drive a wedge between the working people and to emasculate the concept of proletarian solidarity.

Of course, it is impossible not to take into consideration the distinctiveness of the activity of trade unions which work in countries with different socioeconomic systems. On the one hand there is the constant antagonism between the trade unions and the entrepreneurs and between the trade unions and the state, which is hostile to the working people. [paragraph continues]

On the other hand there is the interested participation in the creation of a new system and cooperation with the state. In the one instance there are the distinctive difficulties of the struggle; in the other, there are the problems of growth, for the pioneers' road is not an easy one. However, all this does not remove the class common goals of the working people's trade unions wherever they may operate.

The goals are that it is precisely the working man, to use K. Marx' words, who must be the master of the world, and society must serve his interests. The common goals of all working people has been, and remains, the basis of the manifestation of proletarian internationalism by the trade unions of all trends and currents under the slogans of peace, democracy and social progress.

The internationalization of social life and of the class struggle is objectively leading to the expansion of the base of the manifestation of proletarian solidarity by the working people of the whole world.

Today, as never before, the struggle for the socioeconomic interests of the working people is fusing into a single stream with the struggle for peace, the ending of the arms race and for disarmament. This is understandable. The smaller the spending on military purposes--and it is now reaching the astronomical sum of $350 billion per annum--the greater the opportunities for combating unemployment, hunger, illiteracy and sickness--those constant concomitants of capialism--and the bigger the strides with which the socialist countries will progress in their creative work.

Is there not here the broadest scope for the mainifestation of the solidarity of the working people of all countries! We are led to the same indisputable conclusions by an analysis of all the other aspects of the class struggle in the contemporary world, including the struggle against colonialism, racism and dictatorial regimes.

The Soviet trade unions and the trade unions of the other socialist states are fully aware of the importance of the unity of action of the working people of all countries and they are tirelessly developing the traditions of proletarian worker solidarity and are consistently putting these traditions into practice. This applies both to their direct activity in the WFTU and also in the international trade union movement as a whole. The fact that under socialist conditions trade unions occupy a fundamentally different position in no way divides us from the working people of other countries who are waging a dogged struggle for their own interests against capital. The very example of the people of the socialist community, who are blazing a trail for others in the matter of the just structuring of society, is one of the most vivid manifestations of proletarian solidarity, and their experience is the common property of the world's working people.

In the final analysis it is important to understand correctly and take into account the specific features of the functioning of trade unions in countries with different social systems, and at the same time to see beyond these specific features the general law-governed patterns of the development of social processes and consequently those of the international trade union movement as a whole.

Let us take another very important question connected with the WFTU's search for ways of effectively combining the actions of various detachments of the international trade union movement and which requires more profound theoretical comprehension. Here I should like to recall Lenin's famous formula that the proletariat has no other weapon in the struggle for power than organization. [paragraph continues]

It is possible to talk, with every right, about the fact that the birth of the WFTU and the unswerving process of the consolidation of trade unions in various forms confirm the objectiveness and depth of this formula and its persisting significance.

It is impossible not to see that capital is also attaching increasing significance to the coordination of its actions on an international scale against the communist movement, the working people and the trade unions. We must fully countervail the international class alliance of capital with the proletarian unity of all the working people of the world, as V.I. Lenin used to say when talking about this. Forgetting this and not struggling for the attainment of this goal means waiving the interests of the working people.

The development of the international trade union movement in the direction of united action, as history and the experience of recent years shows, is being pushed ahead primarily by the demands of the broad masses of working people and by their manifestation of independent initiative and in spite of all kinds of attempts to retard the process of the consolidation of various detachments of the international trade union movement. I think that the key to determining the line toward the strengthening of the unity of action of various detachments of the trade union movement lies in this. In other words, it is a question of focusing efforts on work among the masses and on enhancing their self-awareness.

The shift to the left in the trade unions that has taken place in recent years has been largely the result of the initiative of the masses from below. In particular this applies to the certain measure of rapprochement between the WFTU, the World Confederation of Labor and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

The problems, which were the basis for their participation in a number of joint actions, are characteristic. These include the struggle for peace and disarmament and against racism and the suppression of democratic freedoms. It is worthwhile recalling the campaign in support of the new Stockholm appeal, the world conference on employment and two international trade union conferences against apartheid. The most recent example is the preparation by these three trade union associations and other detachments of the international trade union movement for a joint observance this March of a week of solidarity and united action in support of the people and working people of southern Africa against apartheid.

Two European trade union conferences--which showed that the relations between the trade union centers of Europe of differing orientations have passed from the stage of dialog to the stage of joint action--have become just as significant a phenomenon in the matter of establishing unity of action.

Of course, the search for common viewpoints by the various currents of the trade union movement also presupposes further discussions and clashes of opinion. If these discussions proceed primarily from the interests of the working people and do not seek pretexts for mutual recriminations, we are in favor of these discussions.

We are in favor of businesslike discussions between the WFTU and the other international trade union centers, and we favor comradely discussions within the ranks of the WFTU itself. For where there is no movement of thought and no quest for new solutions and new forms and methods of work, life stagnates and the interests of the working people suffer.

"...Although achieving the unity of the international trade union movement," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev noted at the 16th USSR Trade Union Congress, "is a long and complex process, we are convinced that it will proceed along an ascending line. In any case, the Soviet trade unions have worked and will work precisely toward this prospect."

The working people of the world are confident that the WFTU, its affiliated organizations and all other detachments of the international trade union movement which are joining forces around the WFTU, will continue to work for this prospect.

The success of the Ninth World Trade Union Congress and support for its decision among the broad people's masses will to a great extent determine the future paths for the developments of the entire international trade union movement. This is why today such close attention by the world public is riveted on the preparation for this congress, and this is why the working people of all countries are awaiting the results of its work with such great hope.

WORLD'S COAL RESERVES ESTIMATED TO LAST 5,000 YEARS

LD061356Y Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Leningrad, March 6, TASS--With the reduction of oil and gas deposits their place in the world's energy balance will be taken again by coal. Soviet geologists and economists have estimated that about 14 trillion tons of coal and lignites are concentrated in the bowels of the planet within reach of modern mining technology. At the present rates of growth of coal mining (and these rates are steadily increasing) these reserves would be sufficient to satisfy mankind's industrial and domestic needs "for at least five thousand years".

This contention is contained in a report presented to the USSR geographical society by a team of specialists from research centres in Moscow and Leningrad. The authors state that their estimates were made according to a uniform methodology accepted in socialist countries-members of the council for mutual economic assistance. The estimates dealt with deposits of coal lying at a depth of up to 1,800 metres and lignites at a depth of up to 600 metres.

LINKING OF SALT, HORN STRENGTHENS DISARMAMENT OPPONENTS

LD090040Y Moscow in English to North American 2230 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] As you may have heard, the Senate Republican minority leader, Howard Baker, has said the time has come for President Carter to make it clear to the Soviet Union that if, as he put it, the Soviet presence in Ethiopia continued, the President should threaten to suspend the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. Howard Baker made this statement on American television on Sunday. Here's a comment from our news analyst Viktor Moskvin.

Howard Baker's statement is far from being the only case when an influential political figure in the United States tries to lump together two quite different problems. Official Washington denies this tie-up, as it were, and nevertheless the State Department, the President's national security adviser Zbigniew Brezezinski and President Carter, in his statement at a news conference last week, consider both the SALT II negotiations and the conflict in the Horn of Africa as two interconnected factors. This is emphasized in the American press comments. What's more, American journalists describe the State Department pronouncement late last month as the first instance when Washington did tie up, though indirectly, the SALT talks with the Ethiopian-Somali conflict in the Horn of Africa.

As to the events in that area, the United States leaders themselves admit that it's Somalia that acts as the aggressor, yet Washington just limits itself to this statement of fact. It is doing nothing to prevent the creation of a dangerous precedent, a case when the leaders of one country try to satisfy their territorial claims to their neighbor by force of arms.

As for the Soviet Union, it seeks nothing for itself in that area. It has come to the assistance of a victim to aggression, and this stand adopted by the Soviet Union has been explained publicly by its leaders on more than one occasion. In all likelihood Washington ties the SALT talks with the conflict in the Horn of Africa, not because it is concerned about stability on that continent, as is claimed by American officials. If that were the case the United States would not encourage the aggressor by giving him political and military support. As some of the American papers note, the idea is to create an atmosphere of prejudice in Congress against the Soviet Union and its stand at the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. As the Soviet national daily PRAVDA has said, in the United States there are both outright opponents of the new agreement in that field and those who try to amend the agreement in such a way as to give unilateral advantages to the United States to the detriment of the principle of equality and equal security, and it is apparent that linking the SALT talks with the conflict in the Horn of Africa only strengthens the positions of those who are against the new agreement.

The American press has already tied the SALT talks with issues which have nothing to do with them. I mean various theories discussed in American papers early last year concerning SALT-II and the anti-Soviet campaign in defense of the so-called human rights. At that time too the idea was to create an unfriendly atmosphere with regard to the Soviet Union and its stand at the SALT talks. As you may remember, at the Moscow talks in March the Soviet Union rejected the two so-called alternative American proposals as unacceptable and giving unilateral advantages to the United States.

The Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko spoke in detail about it at his news conference on 31 March. Significantly, in early April, the New York TIMES observed it was hard not to acknowledge that the Soviet foreign minister was only right.

The paper added that his statement explained the Russian rejection much better than all kinds of theories claiming that the Russians were annoyed at President Carter's open defense of human rights.

The SALT talks are complex as it is, and to add to the existing difficulties by lumping together two quite different problems means to play into the hands of those who are against the new Soviet-American agreement. It is evident that both countries equally need such an agreement. The United States leaders themselves have stated that on more than one occasion.

SALT Support Grows

LD090000Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1610 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, 8 March, TASS--The American public thinks that the time has come to complete the talks on limiting strategic offensive weapons and sign a corresponding agreement with the Soviet Union. Prominent political figures and organs of the press condemn those circles which are striving to thwart this by trying to link the talks with Soviet policy in the Horn of Africa.

P. Tsongas and D. Bonker, members of the House of Representatives, have appealed to the White House to give up this ruinous and, in their opinion, artificial stance, which links further progress at the talks on limiting strategic arms with the absurd demand that the USSR stop giving support to Ethiopia. "We shall only impede our efforts at limiting nuclear arms--a limitation that corresponds with the interests of both the United States and the Soviet Union," the congressmen said. Establishing a "link" between the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks and the events in the Horn of Africa, they emphasized, "would be ill-advised and would lead to the opposite result."

P. Tsongas and D. Bonker criticized a statement by Z. Brzezinski, assistant to the President for national security affairs, that the actions of the Soviet Union in Africa might threaten the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks.

The New York TIMES describes Z. Brzezinski's statement as having "dangerous consequences." The danger of attempts to link the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks with matters having no direct bearing on them is that, logically speaking, matters might not end here, the paper warns. "In the final analysis the agreement on limiting strategic arms would be made dependent on a preliminary settlement of all other Soviet-American disputes. These tactics will obviously be ineffective." Therefore, the New York TIMES concludes, any slowing down of the talks might evoke serious suspicions by the Soviet Union that the United States is striving to achieve unilateral advantage in the nuclear arms race.

ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER IN WASHINGTON TO ASK FOR ARMS

LD081256Y Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

["Israel Demands Weapons"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, March 8, TASS--TASS corresponent Yevgeniy Yegorov reports: Israeli Defence Minister Weizman has arrived in Washington. He is to have four days of talks with President J. Carter, leading figures of the Defence Department, State Department and congressmen. According to the U.S. press, Weizman has brought along list of arms that Israel would like to obtain from the USA. They are worth at least one billion dollars.

Thus, Weizman plans to discuss with the Pentagon leadership the program for a modernization of Israel's arms forces for 1980, which was sent over to the military department several months ago. According to this program, Israel wants to receive from the USA tanks and self-propelled artillery of the latest types, hovercraft ships for the navy, electronic equipment and ammunitions.

But Weizman's main objective, as is noted in Washington, is to get from the United States accelerated supplies to Israel of the latest warplanes F-15 and F-16. As President James Carter announced recently, Israel is to receive fifteen F-15 and seventy-five F-16 aircraft. But Israel insists that the USA supply it with twenty-five F-15 and one hundred and fifty F-16 aircraft.

Weizman's talks are held on the eve of the visit to Washington of Israeli Prime Minister M. Begin and Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, who are to arrive here in mid-March.

U.S. ARMS DELIVERIES PROMOTE MIDDLE EAST EXPANSIONISM

LD081247Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[Leonid Medvedko article: "Stimulating Expansionism"]

[Text] The Carter administration has submitted a question to Congress on a "package deal" envisaging the simultaneous delivery of warplanes to Israel, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, supposedly with the aim of preserving the "balance of forces" and stimulating the "speediest establishment of peace" in the Near East.

It is planned to give Israel 90 of the latest F-15 and F-16 aircraft, but Egypt would get only 50 F-5E's, which As-Sadat considers "obsolete" and therefore incapable of opposing the military hardware received by Tel Aviv. As far as Saudi Arabia is concerned, it has been promised 60 F-15 aircraft, which, Washington is convinced, could not be used against Israel for both military and political reasons.

Justifying the so-called "package deal" N. Velioles, deputy assistant secretary of state, stated that the Americans are trying above all to "strengthen Israel's belief in the future and to induce it to make the difficult decision necessary for peace." It looks very much as if Tel Aviv has already made this "difficult decision," having stated its refusal to withdraw from the occupied territories and its intention to preserve the old and create new Israeli settlements on the occupied Arab lands.

Cairo and Riyadh obviously do not want to leave Tel Aviv to its expansionism. President as-Sadat, having forgotten that Israel still occupies Egyptian territory, assured Washington that he is prepared to use American weapons to support Somalia's expansionism in the Horn of Africa. The Saudis, as the London FINANCIAL TIMES writes, generally consider this region "virtually their own backyard" and have already given Somalia at least $200 million and a large quantity of arms.

But the matter is not confined to this. Riyadh, as the Arab press writes, relying on its financial might and American weapons, is trying to satisfy its own expansionist desires and to establish control over neighboring Arab countries. According to a report in the Lebanese magazine ATH-THAWRAH MUSTAMIRRA, last year Saudi Arabia seized two islands belonging to Kuwait and, despite its protests, is prospecting for oil there. At the beginning of 1978, it made territorial claims on the Yemen Arab Republic, demanding the region of Al Jawf.

By promoting the arms race in the Near East, Washington is not stimulating "the speediest establishment of peace" but the expansionist tendencies and aggress ve claims of its clients. This is fraught with dangerous consequences for peace in the Near East and adjacent regions.

BROWN DOCTRINE CAN ONLY INCREASE ASIA, PACIFIC TENSION

LD081415Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[Col A. Leontyev article: "'New' Doctrine With Old Aims"]

[Text] Fear sees danger everywhere. This was convincingly proven back in 1966 by U.S. President Johnson, who made the following panic-stricken statement to his fellow-countrymen: "If we withdraw from Vietnam we will have to fight in Hawaii tomorrow and in San Francisco next week." Since the United States' withdrawal from Vietnam, not weeks but years have elapsed, but there is no fighting in this region and none is anticipated....

But some people in Washington are not troubled by such facts. Today some gentlemen are continuing with even greater zeal to intimidate their people and other people with the "communist threat" and to assert that terrible disasters await them "if the United States withdraws from Asia."

A fresh example of this zeal is the speech delivered in Los Angeles by U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown--the same Brown, incidentally, who, as secretary of the air force in the Johnson administration, militated for the unrestricted bombing of Vietnam. Now Brown essentially advocates the unrestricted buildup of U.S. military might in Asia.

In his speech he advanced the Pentagon's "new" military doctrine for the Pacific and East Asia, which proclaims that the United States intends to retain fully its "military presence" there and, moreover, to "strengthen its already powerful (?) forces in this region."

According to foreign press figures, 143,500 U.S. soldiers and officers are now stationed at the hundreds of military bases in the Pacific and the Far East, including 48,000 in Japan, 40,500 in South Korea, 16,000 in the Philippines, 1,000 on Taiwan, 700 in Australia, 8,700 on Guam and 27,500 on the ships of the U.S. 7th Fleet.

The United States has not abandoned its plans to create a large-scale naval and air base on Diego Garcia in the center of the Indian Ocean and is building bases in Australia and trying to regain its bases in Thailand. It is turning the Mariana Islands and other islands of Micronesia in the Pacific into its colony, where new military bases are also being built. From these bases, the New York TIMES writes, "bombers will be able to strike the Asian mainland while missile-carrying ships and submarines equipped with missiles will have an even larger foward base than they have at present. In addition, ground forces can be stationed on the Mariana Islands and will provide a more flexible reaction to everything happening in this region."

"We will maintain large-scale armed forces in the western Pacific," H. Brown boasts. "They will have B-52 bombers, submarines armed with ballistic missiles, 9 tactical fighter aircraft squadrons, 2 assault groups in a state of combat readiness, 20 cruisers and destroyers, two-thirds of a Marine division and 1 wing of naval aircraft." [paragraph continues]

But, although the secretary admits that these forces are "already powerful," he is militating for an increase. In the next 5 years, he says, the United States intends to strengthen its positions in this region by deploying several sophisticated weapons systems there: Trident nuclear-powered submarines; cruise missiles for the B-52 bombers; F-14 fighters for aircraft carriers; F-15 fighters for air force squadrons; a long-range detection and targeting system. The United States, Brown said, will also "modernize and increase its Pacific fleet."

This is a new, extensive military program in flagrant contradiction of Washington's official statements concerning its interest in reducing the danger of war and limiting the arms race. It creates a threat to peace in Asia. After all, its implementation can only complicate the atmosphere and step up tension.

The doctrine's author should have thought about this. There was time to think if you consider that Brown's working day, according to the New York TIMES Magazine, is from 0630 to 2030. But he used the long time spend in his office chair for another purpose; to compose fables about the "Soviet military threat" and "the growth of Soviet military might in Asia and the Pacific."

In addition to the mythical "Soviet threat," the secretary has circulated other "arguments." It is alleged, without any grounds, that Vietnam "could switch to an adventurist policy against its noncommunist neighbors." In Asia in general, in the speaker's opinion, "there are many unknown quantities;" "the enemies cannot always be clearly distinguished;" "changes in fundamental strategic significance are possible," and "the present political correlation of forces could rapidly deteriorate." The idea is immediately imposed that only U.S. military might, U.S. bases and U.S. interference can insure peace for the Asian countries.

The speech in Los Angeles was designed to demonstrate that the United States has already fully recovered after the Vietnam catastrophe, regained its former confidence, and intends again to dictate its will to the people of Asia. What can be said on this subject? You are too late, gentlemen! Perhaps you have become your "former selves," but Asia will never be the same again. Its people reject the solicitations of their transpacific guardians and their "new" military doctrines, their blocs and bases, and they do not want and will not allow "new Vietnams."

HAWKS' 'ILLUSIONS' ON USSR RELATIONS NOT IN U.S. INTERESTS

LD071345Y Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 10 Signed to Press 2 Mar 78 pp 10-11 LD

[Dispatch written specially for ZA RUBEZHOM by G. Shishkin, chief of the TASS office in New York: "Lying Fantasies and Sober Reflections. What Is Behind the Anti-Soviet Campaign in the United States"--first paragraph is unattributed introduction]

[Text] In the last few months the opponents of the relaxation of international tension, the ending of the arms race and the transition to effective disarmament, have mounted a fierce offensive in the United States aimed, in particular, at wrecking the talks being held between the USSR and the United States on concluding a new strategic arms limitation agreement. Bringing into play the totally false myth of the "growing Soviet military threat," "hawks" of every stripe are making desperate attempts to sow mistrust and hostility toward the Soviet Union, to stir up Americans against the USSR and to make them pay again and again for the arms race in fear of the military threat. [paragraph continues]

The Pentagon and representatives of the military-industrial complex are striving to obtain a further increase in the already colossal military expenditure, including creating new, still more destructive types and systems of armaments. As sober-minded Americans stress, this policy runs counter to the vital interests of the U.S. people of other countries and is fraught with the intensification of the danger of a world nuclear missile catastrophe.

New York--A "work" by one (Jochen Gertz) has been shown at a modern art exhibition in the United States. The notice which appeared next to the "exhibit" said that (Gertz) spent 16 days on a trip along the trans-Siberian railroad, traveling from Moscow to Vladivostok and back in a sleeping car with "closed blinds." Each day he stood on a new ceramic tile. Then (Gertz) laid out all these tiles in a square on the floor of the exhibition hall and scattered over them the ashes left after he had...burned the notes made during his visit to the USSR.

This trash is presented as the latest achievement of so-called "conceptual [umozritelnyy] art."

Faced with "works" of this kind, an absolute majority of normal people not only shrug their shoulders in puzzlement but exclaim with indignation: "And they call that art!" But the "conceptual trend" has its admirers. They are attracted primarily by the possibility of giving free rein to their imagination in this "type of art"....

It is now difficult to establish who borrowed the idea of the "conceptual approach" to reality from whom--the apostles of the "new direction in art" from the Pentagon and the United States military-industrial complex or vice versa. But the fact remains; all the anti-Sovietists, opponents of detente and instigators of the arms race in the United States act in strict accordance with the principles of "conceptual art."

A Provocative Ballyhoo Which Has Been Carefully Prepared and Thoroughly Rehearsed

It was noticed long ago that the fantasies of the opponents of the relaxation of international tension reach tremendous dimensions when the American Congress starts to discuss the budget for the next fiscal year. This phenomenon can now be observed in the United States. "For the last few weeks all the mass media have been mounting a well-coordinated anti-Soviet campaign," the DAILY WORLD writes. On this occasion the conclusion of the American communists' newspaper is totally shared ever by a bourgeois publication such as the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR. "A whole galaxy of organizations," it states, "is inundating the American people with articles, movies, radio programs and speeches about the notorious 'new Soviet threat.'"

Of course, all this is taking place against the background of the Pentagon's new demands that military expenditure be inflated in order to whip up the arms race. As the magazine PROGRESSIVE notes, the Pentagon has attached to the military budget for fiscal 1979 a whole "escort of newspaper articles explaining that the only hope of disarmament lies in achieving superarmament."

It should be noted that in their anti-Soviet campaign the Pentagon, its supporters in Congress, the advocates of militarism from the military-industrial complex and also figures in the scientific field and in the mass media have really reached unprecedented heights in the sphere of "conceptual art." Their flights of fantasy are truly infinite.

Day in, day out the press, radio and television din into Americans that, supposedly, the "Soviets are building up their armaments and the United States is lagging further and further behind the Russians in this sphere;" that "Western Europe is threatened by a crushing air attack;" that "American land-based missiles are extremely vulnerable," and so on and so forth.

All records for "conceptual" lies and slander were smashed on 17 February. On this one day the U.S. mass media presented Americans with more fables than others could have invented in a year. The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR reported from Washington: "The American military is expressing growing concern over a new potential danger in Europe--the threat of a Soviet blitzkrieg." All the newspapers featured a report that Admiral Turner, director of the CIA, had declared at a closed session of the Congressional Joint Economic Committee that, "in the last 10 years the Soviets have spent 2.5 times more funds on strategic armed forces than the United States." The Washington POST and many other newspapers published anti-Soviet commentaries by observers Evans and Novak. Once again citing "top-secret directions" from Gen D. Jones, U.S. Air Force chief of staff, to his subordinates, they described the "new threat" in the most somber colors: According to them, thanks to the latest Soviet achievements, "modern American cruise missiles are vulnerable to the Soviet air defense." Of course, it was concluded that the United States must immediately start implementing a program for the manufacture of the new B-1 bomber and other aircraft.

Crowning all this, that same day the newspapers front-paged under sensational headlines the fabrications of H. Haldeman, a former U.S. presidential aide, who is serving a prison sentence for complicity in the "Watergate affair." In his book Haldeman alleges that the "Soviet Union planned a nuclear strike against China" and "proposed that the United States participate in the nuclear attack." According to the scheme of the directors of this whole malicious campaign, the reports that the "Pentagon is striving to obtain a $56-billion increase in U.S. military spending in the next 5 years" looked perfectly logical against the background of this "Soviet perfidy."

Even given all the multifaceted nature of the anti-Soviet campaign mounted in the United States, it can be concluded with confidence that the main aim of American reaction is to sabotage the conclusion of an agreement on the second stage of strategic arms limitation. Overtly opposing the positive development of Soviet-American relations, it sees this agreement--not without reason--as the key to the solution of many other problems, and that is something which the American "hawks" refuse at all costs to tolerate.

Stressing the fundamental importance of solving the problem of strategic arms limitations, C. Yost, a well-known supporter of detente and former U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations, writes: "The successful completion of the present Strategic Arms Limitation Talks is the cornerstone for not only improving but merely insuring stable Soviet-American relations. The conclusion of a new strategic arms limitation agreement would improve the climate for progress in other areas of the relations between the USSR and the United States; while the absence of an accord on this issue or a refusal by the Senate to ratify an agreement would not only whip up the risky and expensive arms race, but would also poison all relations and create a threat to peace."

Some 71 Percent of the Population Are in Favor of Arms Control

Meanwhile the White House is highly concerned at the fall in the President's prestige as a result of the administration's failures to solve complex problems--inflation, massive unemployment; the urban crisis; the deterioration of the U.S. position on world commodity, foreign exchange and financial markets. Knowledgeable commentators have repeatedly declared that the improvement of the prospects of lasting peace and the curbing of the arms race are the main trump card which the Carter administration could utilize in order to achieve the successes which it needs so much.

Many people in the United States believe that the only factor which is still maintaining the White House's falling prestige is the fact that for the first time in many years Americans are feeling obvious relief as a result of the relaxation of international tension and the lessening of the military threat. Well-known commentator J. Harsch remarks in this connection: "The discrepancies between Carter's election promises and his real achievements are compensated for by one highly important fact: Whatever troubles are awaiting us in the future, on the whole people are not experiencing them today. There is no war. No American soldier is participating in combat operations."

This conclusion is also corrobarated by conversations with ordinary Americans, their letters to newspapers and the results of public opinion polls. According to State Department data, 71 percent of Americans are convinced that "the conclusion of a nuclear arms control agreement must be the main goal of U.S. policy toward the Soviet Union."

New York TIMES reader C. Price of Philadelphia writes to the newspaper: "The fall in the dollar exchange rate abroad, the unemployment inside the country, the decay of the cities, the stagnation in the economy--how many Americans are perfectly well aware that all this is the inevitable result of the fact that great numbers of talented people and great financial resources are diverted from useful spheres of activity in our economy in order to maintain the arms race?"

Taking into account these sentiments among the American public, the White House was forced to abandon its original policy of torpedoing the Vladivostok accord and obtaining one-sided advantages for the United States. Because the American side began to display elements of flexibility and realism in the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, favorable prospects for their successful completion became apparent.

Nevertheless, there is serious concern among those in the United States who are really interested in the further development of detente over the outcome of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks and the subsequent fate of Soviet-American relations. Here frank doubts are often voiced regarding the administration's ability to curb the influential forces which have opposed the further development of detente. "For an agreement on the second stage of strategic arms limitation to be reached by the summer," the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes, "Carter must resolve an extremely complex range of issues both within his own administration and in the Senate, which must ratify the new agreement, and also settle a number of problems with the NATO allies."

The weekly NEW REPUBLIC writes frankly that the U.S. administration is still a long way from solving this task in an article under the expressive and significant headline "The Lost Propaganda War. The Offensive Against SALT" (in English SALT means the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks--g.sh.). [paragraph continues]

"The general outline and many of the details of the upcoming agreement on the second stage of strategic arms limitation are already known," the weekly points out. "This agreement has already caused discord in the United States, although it has not yet been concluded. At the present moment there is no certainty that the two-thirds of the Senate required for ratification will vote for it. If the Senate does not ratify it, the consequences will be disastrous. The era of detente may end. Something approximating to cold war may begin instead."

Under Pressure From the "Hawks"

The forces of the American "hawks" are impressive enough, and their composition is well known. There is the Pentagon and the military-industrial complex. There are their influential advocates in Congress, headed by Senator Jackson. There is the reactionary leadership of the AFL-CIO labor union federation headed by President G. Meany and Secretary-Treasurer L. Kirkland. There are the reactionaries and anticommunists of every stripe.

The potential of detente's opponents should not be underestimated. Thus the "Committee on the Present Danger," headed by former Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Nitze, includes former diplomats, prominent lawyers, scientists, high-ranking military men and businessmen. As NEW REPUBLIC notes, this committee has mounted an "offensive against the strategic arms limitation agreement. This offensive is well financed, broad-based, marked by inventiveness and subtlety and often profoundly thought-out."

At the present moment, this weekly stresses, many people in the United States recognize that the U.S. administration has proved unequal to the tasks facing it. "Of all the criticisms of the White House's foreign policy," the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR states, "the accusation of a lack of a 'major sense of direction' is repeated most often." Prof S. Hoffmann, head of the Harvard University European Research Center, believes that the complications in Soviet-American relations are occasioned by the U.S. administration's policy--by the clumsy attempts at interference in the Soviet Union's internal affairs under the pretext of the "struggle for human rights," by the unrealistic proposals on the issue of a new strategic arms limitation agreement which Secretary of State C. Vance brought to Moscow in spring 1977, by the pro-Israeli position on the Near East situation and by the extremely stupid attempt to belittle the importance of Soviet-American relations "at the very moment when the administration itself had effectively placed these relations at the top of the agenda."

As a result, in Hoffmann's opinion, "the misadventures with the detente policy have played into the hands of those people who depict it as a trap; the Carter administration, which first claimed that it would be firmer than the preceding administration and then retreated, has handed them a stick with which they can now beat it."

These and similar remarks may create the impression that a clear watershed exists between an administration seeking--although not always skillfully--ways of reaching an agreement with the Soviet Union on the basis of the principles of equality, and the "hawks" opposing it and pushing the United States on the fallacious path of the "position of strength" policy and attempts to obtain one-sided advantages.

Of course, the reality is much more complex. There is much evidence and there are many instances [illegible] U.S. administration is striving to pursue a "position of strength" policy and is attempting to utilize the "hawks'" public attacks on itself as a level to pressure the Soviet side in the talks. Recently, the Washington correspondent of the New York TIMES wrote of this with great frankness.

As is well known, the administration itself organized the leaking to the press of secret information regrading the details of the preliminary accord on the new strategic arms limitation agreement--something which was utilized by the "hawks" in Congress and by the "Committee on the Present Danger" in order to mount a broad offensive against this agreement. When the supporters of the agreement began to accuse the administration of irresponsibility, it became apparent that certain officials in Washington are by no means discouraged by the attacks on the draft agreement in Congress and the press, but, on the contrary, regard the attacks as useful for themselves.

In this connection the New York TIMES correspondent reported: "Many official spokesmen believe that Moscow can be forced to make concessions on the main disputed issues."

It is clear that these politicers have not achieved great success in their fantasies when compared with the crazy representatives of "conceptual art." The Soviet Union has repeatedly stated and proved in practice that it is useless to use the threat of force against it. This was most recently stated authoritatively in the PRAVDA editorial article "The Task of Strategic Arms Limitation: Prospects and Problems."

More and More Americans are Joining in the Struggle for a Realistic Policy

All sober-minded Americans who assess the situation realistically and not "conceptually" are convinced: The United States has just as great an interest in ending the arms race as the Soviet Union. Noting that the "continuation of the nuclear arms race represents the greatest threat to the future of all mankind," C. Yost declares: "If the Senate imprudently refuses to ratify the second stage agreement on strategic arms limitation and thereby effectively approves and encourages unrestricted rivalry in the nuclear armaments sphere between the United States and the USSR and other countries, this will be fraught with catastrophic consequences for U.S. security, unprecedented in the country's entire history."

The conclusion of a new Soviet-American strategic arms limitation agreement, its advocates note, will not only contribute to improving the international situation and strengthening the cause of peace but will also save the United States great financial resources, which are so necessary for strengthening the shaken economy. Thus in an authoritative analysis Les Aspin, member of the House Armed Services Committee, calculated that second stage strategic arms limitation agreement would enable the United States to save at least $20 billion.

At the same time one cannot help noticing the reverse phenomenon. The high level of unemployment and instability of the economic situation are presented by the militarists as an "argument" in favor of raising military spending "in the interests of maintaining employment." The effectiveness of this campaign should not be underestimated. Thus even a sober politician and longtime supporter of curbing the arms race such as Senator G. McGovern stated recently: "Unemployment in our country is a source of serious concern among workers and liberals. Since the administration has no alternative, it is impractical at the present time to strive to obtain large reductions in defense spending."

On the same pretext and in defiance of the pledge by the new administration to reduce American weapons deliveries abroad, these have not only not decreased during the administration's tenure of office, but, according to CBS television data, increased by 18 percent in fiscal 1977. The United States sold weapons worth a record sum--$11.3 billion--to foreign countries. According to Pentagon calculations, weapons sales abroad will increase by about another $2 billion in the current fiscal year and will reach a level of at least $13.2 billion. In this connection the New York TIMES writes: "The main arguments of the Pentagon and Wall Street in favor of weapons sales are that this helps achieve U.S. foreign policy aims and insures American influence abroad."

In striving to achieve their aims, high-ranking Pentagon officials are increasing their provocative statements about the "buildup of Soviet miiitary might." All this is often done with the connivance or at any rate not against the will of the administration, which is itself not averse to utilizing similar "arguments" to justify the increase in the military budget--something which it is steadily doing, again in defiance of its election promises. Moreover, under cover of these propaganda campaigns the present administration has been more active than its predecessor in starting to take specific measures toward "making the unthinkable thinkable"--insuring the practical utilization of nuclear weapons.

In the opinion of knowledgeable commentators, this is precisely the point of Washington's preparations to produce the neutron bomb. Prof L. Bloomfield of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a former high-ranking State Department official, and former Assistant Secretary of State H. Cleveland recently expressed public concern about the "continuing quest for 'usable' types of nuclear weapons." They stressed that the neutron bomb is the latest example of this. In a report from NATO headquarters in Brussels a CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR correspondent also noted that the creation of the neutron bomb "is part of the efforts to insure the possibility of utilizing nuclear weapons."

The provocative steps and miscalculations by Washington, which is still clinging to the bankrupt "position of strength" policy, are causing profound concern among all who are soberly aware of the lethal danger of a buildup of the nuclear arms race for both the United States and the whole world.

In his newly published book "The Giants: Russia and America" R. Barnet, well-known specialist on foreign policy issues, believes that it is impossible to overestimate the colossal importance of the constructive development of Soviet-American relations for the fate of the whole world. "The greatest effect of detente," he stresses, "has been that it has ended the opinion that war is inevitable."

The U.S. advocates of detente stress that to insure its success, the United States must finally abandon its provocative attempts to interfere in other states' internal affairs. As sober-minded Americans point out, the only possible and reasonable policy is for the United States to build its relations with the Soviet Union and to find ways to curb the arms race, not on illusions but on recognition of the principle of the two sides' equality. Prof Jerry Hough of Duke University stresses that observance of the principle of equality in relations between the United States and the Soviet Union is the "most vital necessity for the United States."

A number of commentators are criticizing the U.S. administration for deviating from these principles in its practical activity, not only on issues pertaining to relations with the USSR, but also in its approach to solving explosive situations such as the Near East problem.

For instance, S. Hoffmann criticizes Washington for having "departed greatly" from the joint Soviet-American statement on the Near East. "Sooner or later," the author stressed, "the United States will have to pay attention to the PLO."

Life reaffirms every day that it is precisely the arguments of sober-minded American figures, and not the illusions of the American "hawks," which accord with U.S. national interests. This also explains the fact that increasingly broad circles of the American public are becoming involved in the struggle for a more realistic U.S. policy line.

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES EXPLOITED BY U.S. SELFISH INTERESTS

LD082004Y Moscow in French to Africa 1700 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] The government foreign aid program for 1978 was recently published in Washington. Our commentator Dmitriy Andreyev comments on the program: The published figures characterize in a peculiar way the report on the economic and military aspects of American policy toward the developing countries. Despite the fact that the volume of aid in all its forms remains the same, the economic aid represents less than two-thirds of the military aid. The report published by the U.S. Library of Congress indicated that the supply of American weapons to Africa this year will increase considerably. This can be noticed despite statements made by the Washington administration regarding the [word indistinct] and the necessity to cut down the arms exports.

It is obvious that whether it is Zaire, Morocco, Sudan or other countries, this policy can only result in creating or helping to worsen tension in various parts of the African Continent.

Let us, however, examine the so-called American development aid. When U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance argued in Congress in favor of the aid program, he said that the congressmen supported an open world economy. The term open economy has two meanings. First, it means an economy which is not controlled by the state, that is, a capitalist one without tendencies toward nationalization as in the majority of developing countries. Second, it means an economy open to foreign investments, and it means an unlimited exploitation of the natural resources of the Third World in which the United States is increasingly interested.

Speaking in Los Angeles in January, Secretary of State Vance was perfectly sincere. He said: We must protect American investment abroad and insure access to the markets of vitally important raw materials. The developing countries are vested with a [word indistinct] importance for the economic wellbeing of the United States. It is worth noting that these countries bought more from the United States than they sold there, thus contributing to the improvement of the U.S. balance of payments.

How does this reflect on the permanent deficit in the balance of payments of the liberated countries and the African states in particular? Last September the UN Economic Commission for Africa noted that following the fluctuations of raw material prices, the external debt of the African countries reached $34 billion dollars. The Africans are working with other developing countries to create an international fund which could help to stabilize prices. However, the industrial West and, above all, the United States refuse such a thing. Secretary of State Vance reiterated the U.S. rejection, as in the past, of the basic idea of a fund and of the request of the Third World countries to have their external debts cancelled.

ADMINISTRATION HAS CAPITULATED TO ECONOMIC, SOCIAL ILLS

LD071301Y Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 3 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[Ye. Rusakov article: "Promises and Reality"]

[Excerpt] America has been suffering more and more feverishly from economic shocks throughout the current decade, which is characterized by the most severe exacerbation of financial and economic contradictions since the "great depression" of the thirties. To the age-old diseases engendered by the nature of the capitalist market, new ones have been added in the seventies--the energy crisis and the combination of economic stagnation with inflationary processes and the persistence of a high level of unemployment. This last circumstance has led to the bankruptcy, obvious to everyone, of the notorious Keynesian model of state monopoly control of the capitalist economy. Current practice shows that this lever for regulating economic activity, much publicized by official bourgeois propaganda, has finally "jammed."

The present economic disorders are seriously aggravated by the intensifying arms race. Whereas, for instance, in the F. Roosevelt era, federal resources were used for various kinds of social programs to stimulate the expansion of consumer demand, now one-fourth of the budget goes for missiles, tanks and guns. A fatal influence was exerted on the American economy by U.S. aggression in Vietnam, for which America is still paying with disproportionately high inflation and frequent bouts of depression.

Economic stagnation combined with inflation continued to erode the American economy last year. According to information from the U.S. Labor and Commerce departments, growth in the country's GNP fell in 1977, while the price index continues to rise rapidly. All records were broken by the U.S. foreign trade deficit, which soared to $26.7 billion last year. But perhaps the most eloquent comment of all on the state of affairs is the fact that even the insignificant fall in the level of unemployment in December 1977 was greeted with rejoicing in official Washington, although not so long ago the present level of unemployment was considered critical.

In a series of messages to Congress since it resumed work, the administration has devoted much attention to the economic problems troubling the country. The essence of Washington's new economic program was set out at the very beginning of the State of the Union Message. The message says, in particular: "Private business, and not the government, must insure economic growth in the future.... The government cannot eradicate poverty, insure a healthy economy, reduce inflation, save our cities, put an end to illiteracy or guarantee the country's energy supplies."

The limited and hopeless nature of methods of state monopoly control of the economy are common knowledge. If the White House is again forced to admit it publicly, that means above all that, in the face of serious economic and social problems, the administration has in essence capitulated. "For the second year in a row the President is unable to introduce new spirit into economic policy," the New York TIMES editorial claims.

A central place in the administration's new economic program is occupied by proposals to reduce taxation by $24.5 billion, an appeal for voluntary control over wage and price rises and a call to put the federal budget for fiscal 1979 in order. It is suggested that the reduction in taxes, above all in corporate taxes, will entail an increase in demand and in capital investments, which must stimulate the economy and, in the last analysis, stimulate a rise in employment. [paragraph continues]

However, experts justifiably believe that all this will be against the interests of ordinary Americans and above all against the interests of the underprivileged. Such a measure will not remove the economic disorders which continue to aggravate the severe social problems of American society, such as the crisis of the cities, mass poverty, discrimination against colored Americans and so forth. These social problems in turn have a negative effect on the state of the whole economy. Reducing taxes, which mainly affects the relatively privileged strata of the population and corporations, will maintain the vicious circle.

As for the appeal for "voluntary control" over wage and price rises, more than 2 years of experience in compulsory wage and price control, removed in April 1974, have already shown the ineffectiveness and disadvantageousness for working people of such a policy. The cool reception given to the present administration's appeals for the elaboration of wage and price control "guidelines" by both business and labor unions promises little hope of success. "The 'guidelines' in wage and price rises proposed by the administration suggest an attempt to stop arterial bleeding with a plaster, and not even on the arm which is bleeding," Baldwin, president of the Stanley Company, noted.

The state budget for fiscal 1979, which has been sent to Congress, is hardly different in principle from its predecessors. It displays the same characteristic features of a massive deficit--$60.6 billion (only $1 billion less than in the preceding budget), and a purely symbolic increase in appropriations for social needs, which often conceals an actual reduction in spending after inflation. "Liberals feel that the present administration has betrayed them by refusing to increase spending on the struggle against unemployment, city ailments and health services. They note that the President, who campaigned under the slogan of reducing military spending, has presented a military budget providing for an increase," TIME magazine writes. To satisfy the insatiable appetites of the Pentagon, whose budget is scheduled to increase by $9.9 billion, involves further whipping up the arms race, allotting resources to guns instead of "butter," and, from a purely economic point of view, aggravating crisis phenomena.

But the promise to reduce the military budget by $5-6 billion is not the only thing to be buried. The present administration's economic program is a "communal grave" for election promises. Clearly he promise to balance the budget by 1981 is not working out, plans to control inflation and unemployment are being reviewed (with a view to increasing them), and the national system of health insurance has been shelved....

Like election promises, the very procedure by which the White House and Congress propose long-term economic tasks without considering the realities is a kind of Washington political ritual. It is rather reminiscent of a quack's "charms" at the bedside of a sick man: If he gets better, that means the "healing" helped, if he gets worse--it is his own fault. The healing of the sick American economy by U.S. ruling circles follows the same principle: If the position improves, it will be possible to assert that the economic program played its part; and if a new depression occurs, that will be a reason to renounce current promises. In fact in the last analysis, everything is in the power of market forces.

U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD, MORAL STANCE ATTACKED

LD082250Y Moscow in English to North America 2230 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Igor Aleksandrov commentary]

[Text] All these months the Americans have been trying to move the discussion off on to the so-called human rights problem and haven't shown interest in discussing the basic problems of peace and security. The numerous statements the Americans have made on human rights are weak and unconvincing.

Although they refer to the Helsinki final act they have actually reduced the problem of human rights to the freedom of movement and exchange of information. But the final act and other international documents treat human rights as the unity of social, economic, cultural and political justice. The Americans also use the issue of human rights as a way to interfere in the internal affairs of the socialist countries and this also directly violates the Helsinki agreements.

Another approach that the United States has taken to human rights at the Belgrade meeting is to use the problem only as a weapon in foreign policy and not to notice human rights violations in the United States.

Many observers have for a long time been pointing out Washington's double standard on the question of human rights. On the one hand, the United States made a continuous stream of statements in defense of human rights around the world in an attempt to impose its own system on the socialist countries and on the other hand it is strangely quiet and passive about human rights in its own backyard. Recently, the Human Rights Commission made such admissions in its annual report. It cited the outrageous figures on the high unemployment and poverty among minority groups and women, the ineffectiveness of urban programs to help out low income families and problems with police brutality.

Washington's true position on human rights is evidenced in its attitude toward the mines strike. For a long time the White House did not step in to solve the conflict. This was as long as the mine corporations--with their large coal reserves--dragged out the strike hoping to bring the miners to their knees. Apparently Washington was not worried about the interests of the 160,000 striking miners. But then it became clear that the tactics of the mine owners were not working and their reserves were dwindling. The balance of strength changed in favor of the miners. That is when the White House stepped in to help the mine owners and to impose a collective agreement on the miners that they all opposed. The White House then resorted to the Taft-Hartley Act, one of the most antilabor and antidemocratic laws ever made in the United States. Use of this law in the interests of a handful of mine owners is certainly no way to defend human rights.

Washington stubbornly denies the fact that the United States has political prisoners but the whole world knows of the many dozens of Americans locked behind bars for their progressive political activities. Unlike the victims of the McCarthy era who were openly harassed for their political convictions, today's critics face criminal charges, trumped up charges. This is the case with the Wilmington 10 and many other activists for social justice.

One of them is John Harris, who is to be executed on 10 March. This young black worker, John [illegible] demonstration of blacks against the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama and against police brutality and oppression. Based on false theft charges Harris was sentenced to life imprisonment. Since he continued fighting in jail and publicized the truth about the barbaric conditions in American prisons he was charged with killing a guard. Thus, he was sentenced to death. As usual Washington has shown no interest in the tragic fate of this young American to be executed in a few days.

This is further evidence that Washington wants to use the problem of human rights only in its foreign policy aims. Mass violations of the rights of millions of Americans, socially, economically and politically, can hardly give Washington the moral right to set itself up as a defender of human rights round the world.

U.S. 'WAR PREPARATION' TRAINING METHODS CRITICIZED

LD031547Y Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Mar 78 p 9 LD

[Mikhail Ozerov article: "Top Secret: So That They Should 'Get in the Mood for War'..."]

[Text] "Shoot at the Russians!" came the command.

And John fired.

He fired at running soldiers. The soldiers were wearing Soviet Army uniforms and they were carrying AK-47 submachineguns. They were shouting something in a language incomprehensible to the American. One by one they fell, cut down by his accurate shots.

All the same, three of them ran up to the trench. Although John is well-versed in jujitsu methods, he could not cope with the three of them....

Some ice-cold water brought him round. Over him were bending several officers with five-pointed stars on their shoulderboards. They began torturing John.

What is this? An excerpt from the latest anti-Soviet novel? An episode from a film about the "heroic feats" of James Bond? No, this actually took place. It is called "the new method of training U.S. soldiers."

It has become known that special military units and subunits have been set up in the United States which simulate a "potential enemy"--that is, the Soviet Army. Tanks with Soviet identification marks have started rumbling over U.S. soil and shells fired from Russian guns have begun exploding there. If a soldier is captured during military maneuvers, he is now tortured "in the Russian style" as happened with John, from the 13th formation....

"Shoot at the Russians!"--this command rings out in the air too. A program codenamed "Aggressor" is currently being implemented in the U.S. Air Force. The essence of this program is as follows. The "aggressor" squadron based at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, plays the part of a Soviet combat formation. Phantoms have been repainted to look like Migs. The pilots have been trained in "Russian" tactics of waging air battles. Mock-up Soviet missile installations have been built.

"The task of the 'aggressor' squadron," Lt Col Ronald Davis told journalists at Nellis, "is to insure that the pilots we operate against get into the mood for war against the Russians."

"Get into the mood for war." How cynical and brutal this phrase sounds and how it contradicts what is currently taking place in the world. Nevertheless, it is precisely this thesis that lies at the base of the new system of training U.S. soldiers. According to a Pentagon spokesman, the old system in which the armed forces simulating the "aggressor" wore U.S. military uniform and were equipped with U.S. weapons, "did not provide a sense of reality essential for preparing commanders, junior officers and soldiers for the next war."

Consequently, Soviet military uniforms are being produced. But it is also necessary for an American soldier, when he sees "Russians" in his gunsights, to grind his teeth with hatred. Throughout each day he is subjected to "brainwashing." New training films called "The Growing Threat from the Soviet Navy" and "The Soviet Threat in the Air" are being shown. The soldiers are given army newspapers to read which are full of articles and "scientific surveys" about "Moscow's dangerous preparations." Former Defense Secretary D. Rumsfeld, when addressing servicemen, intimidates them by alleging that "a very great danger for peace" is emanating from the Soviet Union. Well-known journalist D. Middleton does the same in written form: He is publishing a special essay in which he talks about the "Russian tank columns" which allegedly are ready to "invade the plains of Europe."

Is there anyone they are not trying to draw into the campaign of war hysteria? Even high-ranking officials.

...On a cold January evening, the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE writes in picturesque tone, two persons were standing on the White House lawn. They were waiting for something and what they waited for arrived: A helicopter landed on the lawn. The man and woman climbed aboard the helicopter and disappeared into the gloom before the eyes of the astonished guards.

Who were these two people? Zbigniew Brzezinski, the assistant to the president for national security affairs, and his secretary. They were simulating the evacuation of J. Carter and his wife from the White House in the event of a nuclear attack.

The President himself did not attend this training alert. But subsequently he participated on several occasions in rehersals of crisis situations: He made a flight in a Boeing equipped as an airborne command center, made a 9-hour voyage on board a nuclear strike submarine, and visited several underground command centers. At the end of January, he conducted exercises in the Pentagon and spoke with the commanders of various units so that they "could become familiar with his voice."

Reporting this, the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE wrote that none of the recent U.S. presidents had taken part in such operations. Eisenhower alone, in 1955, during a training attack, "fled" Washington with 15,000 civil servants and ran the country for 3 days from a bomb shelter....

Speaking at the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on 24 February, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev declared: "Opportunities have been created for the deepening and expansion of cooperation between the USSR and the United States. But today, unfortunately, I have to note that the path toward this cooperation is still being blocked by obstacles of various kinds. These obstacles are being created by forces which are interested neither in neighborly relations between the USSR and the United States nor in the relaxation of international tension in general."

NPC PURGE OF 'GANG OF FOUR' FOLLOWERS REPORTED

LD081820Y Moscow TASS in English 1817 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 8, TASS--The new membership list of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress [NPC] and the State Council of the PRC, which was published in the Chinese press, reflects, in the opinion of observers here, the results of the purge of state power bodies of the supporters of so-called "gang of four". At the same time the positions of those who took an active part in defeating the "four" and in the struggle against its adherents grow stronger.

The State Council--the country's central government--underwent the most substantial reorganization. Out of twelve deputy premiers of the State Council, three persons were deprived of the posts as members or supporters of the "gang of four". Only eight people out of 29 ministers and chairmen of state committees appointed in 1975 retained their posts. A number of new ministries and departments, which were liquidated in the period of the Cultural Revolution in the mid-sixties, were instituted.

A session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference--the body of the united people's democratic front--was held simultaneously with the session of the NPC. Teng Hsiao-ping was elected the chairman of the conference. Previously the post was held by Chou En-lai, premier of the State Council of the PRC, who died in January 1976.

As was already reported, Yeh Chien-ying, 80, former minister of defence, was nominated to the post of the chairman of the Standing Committee of the NPC. The post has been vacant since July 1976 after the death of Chu Teh. Hsu Hsiang-chien, 76, became new minister of defence. Two supporters of the "four" were removed from among deputy chairmen of the Standing Committee and their places were taken by Liao Cheng-chih and Chi Peng-fei, who had been subjected to persecution on the part of the "gang of four" during Mao Tse-tung's lifetime.

As the Japanese press points out, in the program of so-called "four modernizations" in the economy, culture and the military field, which was put forward at the session, the main emphasis is laid on the modernization of the Armed Forces of China. This is illustrated by the fact that the very first meeting of the Standing Committee of the NPC on March 7 adopted a decision to introduce longer terms for soldiers' active duty. The new system, as the decision points out, is to "enhance the combat efficiency" of the army.

Japanese leadership during the realisation of the "four modernizations" program are expected. In other words, as the Tokyo SHIMBUN emphasizes, the situation in the country remains unstable.

PRC PROPAGANDA URGES WESTERN INTERFERENCE IN AFRICA

LD080936Y Moscow TASS in English 0830 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

["Peking Instigators"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 8 March, TASS--TASS political observer Sergey Kulik writes:

The events in the area of the Horn of Africa have been used by Peking as a pretext for a fresh anti-Soviet campaign, juggling with facts and disregarding the commonly known truth that in the Somali-Ethiopian conflict the Soviet Union has sided with the victim of the aggression.

The Peking propaganda has been saying over and over again for many days that the Soviet Union's actions in the Horn of Africa are allegedly an "important part of Moscow's big plan for the capture of the whole African Continent," that the Soviet Union "intends to bite off" the countries of Africa one after another and then "devour the whole of the continent."

As far as the critical remarks in the Chinese press against the Western powers are concerned they reduce only to the proposition that the West is allegedly "repelling Soviet expansion poorly." This year alone, nearly one hundred and fifty reports and stories of anti-Soviet character instigating the NATO member-countries to increasing an active interference in the Somali-Ethiopian conflict have been published in the Chinese press in connection with the developments in the area of the Horn of Africa.

The proponents of the notorious Maoist "theory of the three worlds" possessed by anti-Sovietism go as far in their latest comments on the events in Africa as to advise the young developing states of the continent to look for allies among their former colonialists.

Indicative in this respect is the article published in the newspaper JENMIN JIHPAO [PEOPLE'S DAILY] on March 2. It passes over in silence the commonly known facts of exploitation of the African countries by the imperialist monopolies, but alleges that at present "a restructuring of relations is under way between the EEC and Africa on an increasingly equitable basis." In doing so JENMIN JIHPAO expresses hope that such ties "will contribute to developing the joint struggle of the third and second worlds" (which according to Chinese terminology means developing and developed capitalist states) against "Soviet hegemony".

The foreign policy propaganda is called upon to substantiate Peking's concrete actions in the Horn of Africa, which play into the hands of only those who are interested in protracting military operations, weakening progressive regimes, and strengthening the position of imperialist powers in that area. According to numerous reports in the foreign press, the PRC is along with the USA and the other NATO countries a supplier of arms to Somalia.

While the Peking press claims that China treats "equally" both the developing states--the sides in the conflict--the Peking diplomacy supports in fact the attacking side and proposes "to settle" the conflict on conditions of partial occupation of the Ethiopian territory. The plans for the establishment of the notorious Red Sea military pact matched by reactionary Arab regimes and being of an openly anti-Ethiopian character has been ardently approved of in Peking.

Analysing Peking's policy in Africa in the light of the events in the Horn of Africa, one cannot but draw the conclusion that its long-term purposes and methods have remained unchanged on the whole. As was the case in recent events in Angola, Peking is guided solely by anti-Soviet considerations, which brings China into one camp with the most reactionary forces acting in the international arena.

PRC SEEKS WESTERN ARMS EN ROUTE TO WORLD DOMINATION

LD081134Y Moscow in English to North America 0030 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Mihail Georgiyev commentary]

[Text] China's attitude to Western Europe is determined by its global ambitions, its foreign policy plans, which have as their aim to start a conflict between the USSR and the United States. When China's delegate to the United Nations addressed the seventh special session of the General Assembly he, expounded Peking's thesis that Europe is a potential seat of war and, being the center of superpower rivalry, it is the most likely place for a new world war to break out.

Why this yearning for a war in Europe? The answer is obvious. Europe is far removed from China, and should a military confrontation occur there between capitalism and socialism, primarily between America and the Soviet Union, the nuclear holocaust--it is hoped in Peking--would not affect China, leaving it in a position to dictate to the rest of the world. This explains the efforts of the Chinese leaders to torpedo the easing of international tension, to hamper the talks on the reduction of arms and armed forces and to prod Europe and the rest of the world toward a military catastrophe.

In the meantime, while this has not happened, Peking hopes to take advantage of West European countries to build up its military might and to lay hands on Western military technology and the Western arsenal of modern weapons. As the French LE MONDE has put it, Peking now has a strategic weakness for Europe. Numerous Chinese delegations are touring Western Europe, especially the NATO countries, exploring the price of rockets, aircraft, antitank weapons--anything that can contribute to the army modernization proclaimed since the death of Mao Tse-tung.

International observers believe that Peking's agreements with the EEC answers its long-range objective of making an inroad into West Europe's military arsenals through the Common Market. Those in West Europe who want closer relations with Peking dream of the Chinese market, but China appears to be thinking along different lines. The Washington POST attributed the rapprochement between China and the West to Peking's desire to get access to modern weapons. The Polish TRIBUNA LUDU feels the Chinese leaders regard the EEC as a battle horse in their plans against the easing of tension. In short, Western Europe, with its problems and hopes for a lasting peace, interest the Chinese leaders only inasmuch as it can help them push their own plans of triggering off a world war.

Some people in the West believe Peking's bellicose policy endangers the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries only. This is a mistaken notion. When Mao Tse-tung addressed the conference of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee held behind closed doors in September 1959, he said their ultimate objective was to conquer the world. Mao's inheritors have not given up this goal. China today is the only country whose officials make open calls for war. They claim that the easing of international tension is opium for the people, that war alone may lead to a revolution whose flames would destroy capitalism. The prospect of hundreds of millions of people perishing in those flames as well does not seem to bother them. Clearly the policy of China's advocates of world nuclear catastrophe endangers the whole of mankind.

KUZNETSOV RETURNS FROM SOFIA, MET BY SOLOMENTSEV

LD0814574Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[Excerpts] Sofia, 6 March--Today the USSR delegation [headed by V.V. Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium] left Sofia for home.

The delegation arrived in Moscow the same day. It was met at the airport by M.S. Solomentsev, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; B. Ye. Sarkisov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; O.B. Rakhmanin, first deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee section; and other officials. Among the welcoming party was D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR.

MOSCOW'S GRISHIN GREETS SOFIA COUNTERPART ON CENTENARY

LD0808499 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 3 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[Text] On the occasion of the centenary of Bulgaria's liberation from the Ottoman yoke V.V. Grishin, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, and V.F. Promyslov, chairman of the Moscow Gorispolkom, sent Comrade Georgi Yordanov, member of the secretariat of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and first secretary of Sofia City Party Committee, and Comrade Ivan Panev, chairman of the Sofia People's Council Executive Committee, the following telegram: On behalf of Moscow CPSU Gorkom and the Moscow Soviet Ispolkom we send to you, communists and all inhabitants of Sofia our cordial congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of the centenary of Bulgaria's liberation from the Ottoman yoke. This significant date is linked with an important stage in Bulgaria's heroic struggle for freedom and independence and is a striking chapter in the history of our people's combat fraternity.

It is with great satisfaction that we note that our countries' glorious traditions of unbreakable friendship live on and are multiplying in the course of socialist and communist building.

Muscovites value highly the fruitful development of relations of friendship and cooperation between our capitals and are confident that they will continue to strengthen and expand for the good of the Soviet and Bulgarian peoples.

We wish you, dear friends, and all Sofia working people new successes in the implementation of the decisions of the 11th Bulgarian Communist Party congress and in the building of a developed socialist society on Bulgarian soil.

CPCZ'S JAKES VISITS USSR, MEETS WITH CPSU'S KULAKOV

LD0716179 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[Unattributed Report: "At the Invitation of the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] M. Jakes, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee, was in the Soviet Union from 28 February through 3 March 1978 at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

He had meetings in the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences and familiarized himself with the work of party organizations of sovkhozes, kolkhozes and scientific institutions in Moskovskaya Oblast.

M. Jakes was received by F.D. Kulakov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. V.A. Karlov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and Central Committee section chief, participated in the conversation, which took place in a friendly atmosphere. J. Havelka, CSSR ambassador to the USSR, was present at the meeting.

GDR PREMIER STOPH RECEIVES ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

LD082204Y Moscow TASS in English 2030 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Berlin, March 8, TASS--Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR's Council of Ministers, today received Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, Ethiopian minister of foreign affairs. In a friendly conversation Willi Stoph informed the Ethiopian guest of the building of a developed socialist society in the GDR. He emphasized the GDR's solidarity with the struggle of African states and peoples for national and social liberation.

The participants in the conversation expressed satisfaction with the successful development of relations between the GDR and Ethiopia. They noted a great interest of their states in the expansion of economic relations and good exchange.

Willi Stoph described the visit by the Ethiopian minister of foreign affairs to the GDR as an important event which will give new impulses to cooperation between the two countries.

Oskar Fischer, minister of foreign affairs of the GDR, took part in the conversation.

BRIEFS

CEMA COUNTRIES: FULL EMPLOYMENT--Moscow, March 6, TASS--Full employment was ensured in the CMEA member-countries in 1977, like in the preceding years, and a further growth of the number of the working people was observed. As is noted in the review of the situation prepared by staff members of the research institute of the USSR Gosplan (State Planning Committee), the number of factory and office workers in the Soviet Union reached 106.4 million, an increase of two million in one year. There are almost 15 million collective farmers in the USSR. The number of people employed in national economy of the Mongolian People's Republic grew by more than three per cent. The number of employed in the national economy of Poland increased by 105 thousand to reach almost 12 million. In Romania, the number of factory and office workers grew by roughly three per cent to reach 6.7 million. More than seven million people are employed in national economy of Czechoslovakia. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 0740 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD]

INCREASED NATO ARMS SPENDING BY U.S., FRG NOTED

LD091002Y Moscow TASS in English 0930 GMT 9 Mar 75 LD

["NATO: Rise in Military Expenditures"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 9, TASS--"NATO's course towards continuing the arms race arouses indignation and protest from all peace forces in Europe and throughout the world", the Soviet monthly INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS [MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN] writes. This course "sharply runs counter to the interests of the peoples who are striving for a relaxation of international tension and for consolidation of universal peace and security".

"According to figures taken from the foreign press, the monthly says, the member countries of the North Atlantic Alliance spent a total of some 2,105,000 million dollars on military purposes between 1949 (when NATO was founded) and 1975. In 1977, military expenditures of the NATO countries were tremendous, they exceeded 165,000 million dollars. The military-political organs of NATO at meetings in 1977 resolved to further step up the arms race. Under Pentagon pressure, the U.S. West European allies assumed additional commitments for equipping their armed forces with new weaponry in the near future. The United States obtained the consent of the European NATO member-countries for an annual increase in military budgets by three per cent, which is approximately 5,000 million dollars annually".

"The United States holds first place in military spending of NATO countries. The U.S. military budget in the 1977-1978 fiscal year was 116,600 million dollars, the monthly goes on to say.

"Next to the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany holds second place for NATO military spending.

"The defence budget of the FRG for 1978 envisages 35,000 million marks for direct requirements of the Defence Ministry alone. This is 4.5 per cent more than last year."

Military appropriations are also increasing in other NATO countries, the monthly remarks.

AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD081419Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[Text] An Austrian parliamentary delegation headed by Anton Benya, president of the National Council, arrived in Moscow on 6 March on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The members of the delegation met with chairmen of USSR Supreme Soviet chambers.

FRG'S BAHR COMES OUT AGAINST NEUTRON BOMB

LD042016Y Moscow TASS in English 1946 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, March 4, TASS--Egon Bahr, the federal secretary of the SDPG, setting out the stand of his party concerning neutron weapons, said that it will adhere to the course that the congress of Social Democrats in Hamburg decided to adopt. "This means that we are determined to make any attempt useful for preventing the introduction of these weapons". Egon Bahr stressed that the decision of the question on production of the neutron bomb is exclusively the task of the president of the United States and that in the two years to come the German side will not be faced with the need of making a decision".

Speaking at a meeting of the Social Democrats in Ploen, Schleswig-Holstein, the federal secretary of the SDPG criticised the stand of the CDU-CSU opposition bloc which avidly reaches out to nuclear weapons and which seeks to place on the FRG the responsibility for the production of one of its types. As is known, the parties of the bloc came out in support of the Pentagon's plans to deploy the new deadly weapons in Europe. These parties, Bahr said, continue the policy which does nothing to promote the consolidation of peace and makes peace less stable.

However, Bahr refused to make the logical conclusion from his criticism of the neutron bomb and to declare resolutely for renunciation of its production and deployment in West European countries which is planned by the Pentagon.

EARLY RESULTS IN FRG MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS REPORTED

LD061038Y Moscow TASS in English 1009 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, March 6, TASS--Official preliminary data on the results of the municipal elections, held on Sunday in Schleswig-Holstein and Bavaria has been issued here. The population of these lands, with the right-wing trend CDU and CSU having been in power for a long time, is 9.3 millions, i.e. more than 20 percent of all West German citizens with the right to vote.

In Schleswig-Holstein the Christian Democratic Union suffered major losses at the elections. The Social Democratic Party of Germany consolidated its positions. 40.5 per cent of the electors this time voted for the candidates of the Socialist Democratic Party of Germany (the figure was 35.6 per cent at the 1972 elections), for the Free Democratic Party--7.3 per cent (9.0 per cent) and for the Christian Democratic Union--49.2 per cent (53.1).

In Kiel, the chief town of Schleswig-Holstein, the Social Democratic Party had an absolute majority, which so far belonged to the Christian Democratic Union.

In Bavaria, at elections of oberburgermasters of big town, the Social Democrats had a majority of votes in Wuerzburg, Augsburg and Fuerth. For the first time in the past 30 years the Social Democratic Party lost the post of the oberburgermaster of the Bavarian capital, Munich, where the majority of votes went to a representative of the Christian Social Union.

Despite the anti-communist campaign, launched in the course of preparations for elections by the forces of reaction, the German Communist Party had the same number of votes, as at the previous elections.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO FRG BACKS NUCLEAR PACT

PY080200Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 7 Mar 78 p 18 PY

[Text] Bonn--Valentin Falin, current USSR ambassador to the FRG, stated yesterday that his country views the Brazilian-FRG agreement for nuclear cooperation as "something we accept, because this kind of cooperation does a great deal for peace throughout the world. We have good relations with the two contracting parties and that is why we accept this kind of cooperation between two friendly countries."

This statement was made shortly after the USSR ambassador greeted President Geisel during the reception of the diplomatic corps held in the Stadthalle.

Valentin Falin indicated that "it is very difficult to say anything on this subject because it does not concern my country." He recalled that the Soviet Union has signed the NPT. "We are greatly interested in seeing that the commitments and regulations of this treaty are respected," he said.

ANTI-SOVIET FRG TV FILM SCORED AS PROVOCATION

LD081559Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Mar 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Correspondent N. Polyanov Dispatch: "A Fake on the Small Screen"]

[Text] Bonn-West German television has shown a primitive anti-Soviet movie concoction under the intriguing title of "Noon on Red Square." The authors and directors of the movie--or to be more precise, those who financed and guided this provocation--obviously made no attempt to be original. They borrowed their material from the arsenals of psychological warfare. As a result the unsophisticated West German television viewer receives a huge portion of fairytales about "noble dissidents" and the "terrible psychiatric hospitals" in which these dissidents are supposedly placed.

At the whim of the director the narrative is interspersed with sequences which show how the forgery was created, including episodes shot on a hastily concocted set of the "place of execution" which was supposed to represent "Red Square." For greater verisimilitude two old "Volgas" were dragged out on to a cobbled roadway in a West German city. All this "trash" was seasoned with a substantial dose of horrors which even Hitchcock--the notorious Hollywood horror and suspense specialist--might envy.

The leaders of West German television have repeatedly given assurances that they regard the creation of trust among the peoples as one of their most important tasks. The series "Noon on Red Square" testifies to the reverse: A blatant fake designed to sow ill will among West Germans toward their Eastern neighbors has been screened. That is how the progressive FRG public assesses this movie provocation.

ITALIANS PROTEST ANTICOMMUNIST REMARKS BY FRG'S STRAUSS

LD061836Y Moscow TASS in English 1806 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Rome, March 6 TASS--The anti-communist speech of Franz-Joseph Strauss, marked by the "cold war" spirit, has provoked an outraged reaction among progressives in Italy. The leader of the West German Christian-Social Union spoke in the Italian city of Bolzano where he attended the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the local reactionary paramilitary organization, the League of Souty Tyrol Snipers.

Strauss reiterated his well-worn ideas about the "vices" of socialism and launched furious attacks on the communist and socialist parties of Western Europe.

Commenting on this speech, the newspaper L'UNITA writes today that Strauss would like to see Europe "return to the past" and to "the cold war". The newspaper stresses that his policy for many years has been aimed against detente and cooperation in Europe.

PAESE SERA says that the timing of the anti-communist speech of Strauss in the Italian city is not accidental coming as it does at a time when the country is in the midst of a government crisis. Local observers point out that the CSU leader made an overt attempt to interfere in Italy's internal affairs. It is not accidental, writes PAESE SERA, that on the very day Strauss made his speech in Bolzano the head of the Italian neofascists, G. Almirante, met the leaders of the right-wing extremist "black international".

U.S. PRESSURE FORCES INCREASE IN ITALY'S NATO SPENDING

LD030048Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1630 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD

[Excerpt] Rome--The Italian defense minister has presented a 10-year plan for modernizing the Italian Army at great expense.

"The constant increase in military expenditure is taking place under pressure from NATO and from the local military-industrial complex.

"Under pressure from Washington, last year's May session of the NATO generals from the North Atlantic bloc forced Italy to increase its already heavy burden of military expenditure by 3 percent. The country is being deprived of resources which are extremely necessary for the development of industry, agriculture, and housing which are undergoing a very severe crisis. These spheres are being choked by lack of capital which is flowing in large streams to the manufacturers of armaments."

PORTUGUESE-U.S. AGREEMENT ON CREDIT LOAN 'CONDITIONAL'

LD020948Y Moscow TASS in English 0937 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Lisbon, March 2 TASS--The signing of an agreement on the granting of an American loan of 300 million dollars to Portugal was announced here. The loan is part of a 750-million-dollar credit which will be given to Portugal by a number of countries of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development provided Portugal complies with the "recommendations" of the International Monetary Fund. As is known the recommendations include a reduction in domestic consumption and production, a wage restraint, and privileges for entrepreneurs.

DUTCH PARLIAMENTARIANS COME OUT AGAINST NEUTRON BOMB

LD082037Y Moscow TASS in English 1815 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] The Hague, March 8, TASS--The First Chamber of the States-General (parliament) of Holland today declared against the neutron bomb production plans. A resolution passed at the meeting of the chamber is calling on the government to bring the viewpoint of Dutch parliamentarians to the notice of all NATO member states.

Despite the objections by Prime Minister van Agt, even the members of the bloc of the parties of the Christian Democratic appeal, of which he is the leader, supported the resolution.

A movement for complete ban on neutron weapons is gaining in scope in Holland. Recently Defence Minister Roelof Kruisinga resigned in protest against the government's refusal to express a negative attitude to the plans for the production of the neutron bomb and its deployment in the territory of Western Europe.

Among the country's population there is mounting indignation over the plans of NATO strategists. More than a million Dutchmen have already put their signatures to the demand to ban the 'neutron death'.

BRIEFS

ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH PORTUGAL--Lisbon, 7 March, TASS--A mixed commission on economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Portugal opened work here today. On the agenda are matters pertaining to the state and prospects of developing Soviet-Portuguese cooperation in the sphere of power engineering, agriculture and scientific research. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1910 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD]

MORE MATERIAL ON YASIR 'ARAFAT USSR VISIT

Meeting with Gromyko

LD091220Y Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 9 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 9, TASS--USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko received here today a delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation led by Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat. In the course of the conversation, which was held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, were examined in detail the present situation in the Middle East and ways for establishing a just and lasting peace in that area. An identity of views and stands was noted on the issues discussed.

The Soviet Union and PLO hold that the separate talks between Egypt and Israel, passing over the Geneva conference, are gravely detrimental to the interests of the Arab peoples and contribute to realisation of the old designs of Israel and the forces backing it to perpetuate the occupation of a considerable part of the Arab territories captured by it and deprive the Arab people of Palestine of its inalienable rights.

They resolutely condemn capitulatory policies and all sorts of anti-Arab separate actions in Israel's favour, that cannot lead to a comprehensive just settlement in the Middle East, and reject this way as a substitute for such a settlement. The determination of the sides was stressed to continue cooperation for achieving a Middle East settlement called upon to ensure genuine peace in that area. Great significance in this connection is assumed, in their opinion, by consolidation and coordination of actions of all the progressive forces of the Arab world on a consistent anti-imperialist basis.

Andrey Gromyko reaffirmed the Soviet Union's invariable support for the just struggle of the Arab people of Palestine for securing its legitimate national rights, including the right to self-determination, to create its own state and to return to its homes in keeping with the available decisions of the United Nations Organisation. The Soviet Union firmly and consistently declares that only such a settlement of the Palestinian problem may contribute towards establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Yasir 'Arafat expressed gratitude to the Soviet Union, the Soviet leadership headed by Leonid Brezhnev, for active and invariable support for the struggle of the Arab people of Palestine for its inalienable national rights and for rallying its ranks. He stressed that the strengthening of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community is the firm line of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The sides declared their intention to continue regular contacts and exchanges of views on questions of interest for them.

Reported Meeting with CPSU Committee

JN081658Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 8 Mar 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, held in Moscow yesterday the first round of official talks with the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

'Arafat also held an official round of talks with the CPSU Central Committee.

During the meeting with the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, a complete review of Soviet-Palestinian relations was made. In this regard Brother Abu 'Ammar and comrade [name indistinct] stressed that this visit assumes special and extraordinary importance in view of the conditions the Middle East area is passing through. They also stressed that this visit will be a new page in the history of the Soviet-Palestinian relations and that it will undoubtedly result in further strengthening these relations.

Timing of Visit

LD081918Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The PLO delegation led by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the organization's Executive Committee, continues its visit to the USSR. The visit comes while there is a very complicated situation for the Palestine revolution. Imperialism, Zionism and Arab reaction have waged a hysterical campaign against the PLO to force it to deviate from its principled attitudes to a Middle East settlement. To this end attempts are being made once again in Lebanon to kindle the flames of war. The anti-Palestinian campaign in Egypt has reached unprecedented dimensions and its aims, observers believe, is to justify the treason of the rulers of Cairo concerning the Palestine issue. In this atmosphere, the consolidation of the unity of Palestinian resistance movement and its cooperation with progressive Arab states and socialist countries acquires special significance.

As for the Soviet Union, it has always supported the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people for its national rights. Our country uses all its considerable international weight to put an end to the unprincipled maneuvers carried out by certain quarters concerning the Palestine issue. The Soviet Union on many occasions has stressed that peace cannot be achieved in the Middle East unless the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and to establish an independent state on their soil, are realized.

Leonid Brezhnev and Aleksey Kosygin reiterated this attitude of their country once again and very clearly during recent talks in Moscow with the leaders of Algeria, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Libya and Syria. There is no doubt that the present visit of the PLO delegation to the Soviet Union, led by Yasir 'Arafat, will consolidate Palestinian positions in their brave struggle and strengthen friendly Soviet-Palestinian relations.

Friendship With Soviets

LD081628Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Yasir Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, is in the Soviet Union. In an interview with our correspondent, he said, among other things:

[Begin recording, in Arabic fading into Russian] We always come to our Soviet friends with great confidence. As the saying goes--a friend in need is a friend indeed, and at the present time the Arab region and the Arab people of Palestine are subjected to intense pressure from the forces of imperialism and Zionism. It is in precisely these circumstances that we have come to our Soviet friends in order to discuss the situation in the Near East. The Palestinian people will never forget the firm and principled position of the Soviet people and the CPSU, headed by Comrade Brezhnev, in support of our just struggle, in particular the struggle for a lasting and just peace, but not for a peace in conditions of capitulation that have been foisted upon us by the United States and Israel.

We, together with our Soviet friends, passionately desire the establishment of a lasting and just peace in the Near East, a peace based on liquidation of oppression, enslavement and colonialism, a peace whereby the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine for self-determination and the creation of an independent state will be implemented. [end recording]

Al-Qaddumi Evaluation

LD081416Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] The Moscow talks by the PLO delegation led by 'Arafat will promote the strengthening of the front of staunchness and rebuff which was created as a result of the conference of the heads of progressive Arab states, Faruq al-Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, said in a press interview.

He gave a high evaluation of the part played by the Soviet Union in protecting the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their rights to self-determination and creation of their own state.

MOROCCO'S OSMAN ARRIVES IN MOSCOW FOR VISIT

LD091244Y Moscow TASS in English 1238 GMT 9 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 9, TASS--Morocco's Premier Ahmed Osman arrived here today on a working visit.

[Moscow TASS in English at 0935 GMT on 9 March notes that the Moroccan delegation includes "Abdelkamel Raghaye, minister of trade and industry; Moussa Saadi, minister of energy and geological prospecting; K. Lamrani, director-general of the state administration for phosphate production; and other officials."]

EGYPT'S CONTRIBUTION TO ARAB LIBERATION STRUGGLE ASSESSED

LD071922Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Cairo's AL-AKHBAR has once again libeled the Soviet Union. This time it has tried to convince its readers that the Soviet Union is waging a campaign against Egypt's leadership in the Arab world. To prove this claim the paper quoted statements by enemies of the Soviet Union in Peking who long ago became famous in this regard.

However, what is the Soviet posture regarding Egypt's leadership in the Arab world? The Soviet Union still considers Egypt the foremost and major Arab country, and not only because of its size and human and economic potentials. The Soviet Union has always stressed that it was Egypt that hoisted the banner of resolute and relentless Arab liberation struggle against imperialism.

The Egyptian revolution of 23 July 1952 was the one that turned valley of Al-Kinanah into the vanguard and the torch of this just Arab struggle.

It is quite logical that revolutionary Egypt should become the first independent Arab state to establish broad, cordial relations and comprehensive cooperation with the Soviet Union. This took place in order to strengthen Egypt's position in its liberation struggle and to enable the Egyptian revolution to repulse the fiercest assaults by imperialist and Zionist enemies.

In 1973 Egypt was considered the leader of the Arabs in their joint struggle for the elimination of the consequences of the Israeli aggression. However, it is regrettable that Cairo's policy a short while after that began to alter greatly. Cairo actively began to search for friends in the camp of the worst enemies of Arab freedom and national independence. The matter has gone so far that the Egyptian president began to consider himself a good and big friend of Israeli Prime Minister Begin. Men in Washington who continually confirm their special relations with the aggressors and their pledge to maintain Israel's military superiority over the Arabs have also become friends of the president.

This policy of Cairo's led it toward isolation in the Arab world. Its course brought lack of confidence, even in the West. So what is Egypt's leadership in the Arab world that AL-AKHBAR is speaking about? Is it the fault of the Soviet Union that this situation has come about? All this is bound to arouse feelings of sorrow and bitterness in the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile, the USSR's very good feelings toward the Egyptian people have not changed and will not change.

LARNACA EVENTS USED AS PRETEXT FOR ANTI-PLO CAMPAIGN

LD081515Y Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 7 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[Correspondent I. Timofeyev: "The Lessons of a Tragedy"]

[Text] Cairo--Today the whole world knows the details of the events at Larnaca airport on 19 February. It was on that day that Egypt grossly violated the norms of international law by sending a detachment of "commandos" to capture the murderers of the well-known writer and public figure, AAPSO Secretary General Yusuf as-Siba'i. As is known, the adventure undertaken by Egypt, not only without the consent of the Cypriot authorities but also against their will, ended in bloody tragedy. Some 15 Egyptians were killed and 19 were wounded and 7 Cypriots were wounded--the deplorable outcome of an infamous raid which has gone down in the history of international terrorism as "the Larnaca operation."

The exaltation of the tragic military adventure was accompanied in Cairo by a diligently fueled anti-Cypriot campaign which culminated in the breaking off of diplomatic relations with Cyprus. At the same time, anti-Palestinian feelings are being fanned in Egypt, and the primary target of the propaganda broadside in the Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO].

All these actions by Cairo, which is trying to lay the blame on somebody else, might seem absurd were it not for the fact that behind them lies a definite intention to discredit the PLO and to prepare public opinion for an actual refusal not only to support it but also a refusal to acknowledge it as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

It is not difficult to guess official Cairo's purpose. The PLO, which has adopted a clear-cut and principled position regarding the so-called "peace initiative by President as-Sadat," is a stumbling block on Egypt's path toward a separate deal with Israel. This is why any black mark against the PLO, at a time when the terms advanced by Israel are becoming tougher by the day, is grist to the mill of the Egyptian regime which is ready to make fresh concessions.

While expressing verbal support for the struggle of the Palestinian people, the Cairo politicians are making frenzied attacks on the PLO and are increasingly hinting that only Palestinians living on occupied territories are relevant. This trend is reinforced by the hostile actions against Palestinians in Egypt itself. The other day the paper AL-AKHBAR reported Egypt's intention to limit the rights enjoyed by Palestinians in Egypt. This refers to the rescinding the right to free education in universities that had been granted to Palestinian citizens and the withdrawal of exemption from taxation, medical and social security....

It would be a mistake, however, to think that all Egyptians share the official propaganda version. During the discussion of "the Larnaca operation" in the National Assembly, an Egyptian National Progressive Party deputy said that the Egyptian Government bore full responsibility for the tragic consequences of this act.

The Larnaca tragedy, which resulted in senseless deaths, serves as a serious lesson to those who are pursuing selfish aims and think they have the right to transgress the norms of international law that are binding on all.

EGYPT NOT ABANDONING CAPITULATORY COURSE

LD081615Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 7 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[From Yu. Babich International Review in answer to reader's letter: "Capitulatory Course"]

[Text] Although the first stage of Egypt's separate talks with Israel indeed ended in failure, the Egyptian leadership is not abandoning its capitulatory course.

One manifestation of this is Egyptian President A. as-Sadat's interview in the journal OCTOBER. As-Sadat came out once again against resumption of the Geneva peace conference, which is regarded both in the majority of Arab countries and outside the region as the most suitable international forum to examine the Near East problem in all its aspects, with the participation of all interested sides, including the PLO.

At the same time an unbridled anti-Palestine campaign is being conducted in Egypt. The 18 February murder of AAPSO General Secretary Yusuf as-Siba'i in Cyprus served as the pretext for it.

For its part, Israel is still taking a "tough stand" and is reluctant to make any concessions whatsoever to Cairo.

Nonetheless the United States is now making ever-increasing efforts to secure resumption of separate contacts between Egypt and Israel. To this end U.S. special representative A. Atherton has conducted a number of "shuttle operations" between the capitals of the two states.

As the Arab press points out, through Atherton as-Sadat is trying to convince Tel Aviv of the need for at least "cosmetic" concessions on certain questions, particularly the question of Israeli militarized settlements on the Sinai Peninsula. He has, for example, sent a private message to Israeli Prime Minister M. Begin, which the latter described as "friendly" and immediately made a public call for a return to direct negotiations between the two countries. There is a growing conviction in Near East capitals that a new meeting with Begin could be the direct consequence of as-Sadat's message. In the opinion of political observers, the specific methods for returning Egypt to the separate negotiations will probably be elaborated during the Israeli premier's coming visit to Washington.

Progressive forces in the Near East resolutely condemn all these maneuvers. They oppose the Egyptian president's conciliatory and capitulatory course. They also condemn the hypocritical policy of Washington, which campaigns verbally for the resumption of the work of the Geneva peace conference while in fact encouraging separate deals between Egypt and Israel in every possible way, although it is obvious that such deals in no way bring a just settlement of the Near East crisis any nearer. In their opinion, the speediest convening of the Geneva peace conference was and still is the only sensible way to settle the conflict on a just basis with the participation of representatives of all interested sides.

PRESIDENT SAYS SYRIA TO STRENGTHEN TIES WITH USSR

LD090852Y Moscow TASS in English 0730 GMT 9 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, March 9, TASS--Hafiz al-Asad, who was elected president of Syria for a second term at the referendum on February 8, has been inaugurated at a special session of the People's Council (parliamentary).

In his policy speech, Hafiz al-Asad said that the Syrian Government will further strengthen relations of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, support all peoples fighting for national liberation and independence, against imperialism, racialism and aggression.

USSR-SYRIA FRIENDSHIP SERVES CAUSE OF PEACE

LD071149Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 10, 3 Mar 78 pp 6-7 LD

[Yu. Tyunkov article: "Much Unites Us"]

[Text] "The new Soviet-Syrian summit meeting was exceptionally successful and fruitful. All our meetings with the Soviet leaders are distinguished by this," Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Ba'th Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic, declared 23 February before flying out from Moscow. He headed a Syrian party and government delegation which was in the USSR 20 through 23 February.

During the Soviet-Syrian summit meeting there was a thorough and constructive exchange of opinions on questions of bilateral relations and the situation in the Near East, as well as on certain other international problems.

Speaking at the Kremlin reception, L.I. Brezhnev pointed out: "Our countries are different, and each of them has its own rich history, its own traditions and customs. But very much also unites us and does so reliably." He expressed the hope that "the coming years will be marked by the further strengthening of Soviet-Syrian cooperation." Commenting on these words, the Damascus newspaper AL-BA'TH wrote: "Like never before the progressive Arab states, including Syria, must cherish and strengthen friendship with the Soviet Union, which has outgrown the framework of interstate relations and penetrated deep into the hearts of the Arabs."

The talks between the Soviet and Syrian leaders demonstrated once again that the USSR takes a principled and firm stand on the question of a Near East settlement--a stand not subject to incidental fluctuations. This stand meets with the broad support of the Arab peoples and envisages the only possible way to resolve a complex international problem. It is founded on genuine justice and international law and takes account of the legitimate interests of all sides. Only in this way, and not by means of separate deals and backstage maneuvers, is it possible to achieve lasting peace in the Near East. This is why L.I. Brezhnev's comment--that "it is time to end the political maneuvers in the Near East, which are unprincipled and dangerous to the Arabs' interests, and return the business of a settlement to the channel of the Geneva Conference"--have encountered a broad response throughout the world. [paragraph continues]

The results of the Soviet-Syrian talks gave the Beirut newspaper ASH-SHA'B grounds to draw this conclusion: "President Hafiz al-Asad's trip to Moscow is no ordinary official visit. It is a step aimed at resolving the Near East problem."

Before the Syrian guests left Moscow, NOVOYE VREMYA'S correspondent met with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, member of the Ba'th Party leadership, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and Syrian foreign minister, who participated in the talks. Concerning the question of the Arabs' further struggle to liquidate the consequences of Israeli aggression, A.H. Khaddam said:

"There is no doubt that the Arabs' struggle for their righteous cause--the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and the insuring of the legitimate national rights of the Arab Palestinian people--will continue and develop. And this is a natural process, as any people that has been subjected to aggression and predation invariably seeks to liberate its land and to restore its trampled rights. We believe that an important role in this struggle is played by the Soviet Union, which gives the Arab peoples assistance and support. In our opinion, the Soviet Union's contribution to resolving the Near East problem is positive and constructive. And this will undoubtedly contribute to success in the Arabs' just struggle...."

In reply to a question on his impressions from the visit A.H. Khaddam said: "I can make a quite definite reply to that question. We are leaving Moscow with the very best impressions. And this is not surprising, for good, sound relations traditionally exist between the USSR and Syria. Contacts between the leaders of our countries and meetings between L.I. Brezhnev and H. al-Asad contribute to the further development and strengthening of these relations and the consolidation of friendship between our countries...."

This same idea is emphasized in the joint communique on the results of the visit, which reaffirmed that Soviet-Syrian friendship and cooperation "accord with the fundamental interests of both countries and serve the cause of international peace and security."

SYRIAN-ALGERIAN-PALESTINIAN TALKS HELD IN DAMASCUS

LD081922Y Moscow TASS in English 1837 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, March 8, TASS--Talks began here between the delegation of the People's Council of Syria, the National People's Assembly of Algeria, and the National Council of Palestine. The participants in the talks are to discuss a plan for joint actions in the international arena in the context of the decisions taken at the Tripoli and Algiers conferences. Those documents firmly condemn the anti-Arab course of Egypt's President as-Sadat towards a separate settlement with Israel and call for increasing support for the Palestinian people's struggle for their inalienable national rights.

SYRIAN PARTY STATEMENT ON ANTI-ARAB INTRIGUES CITED

LD081936Y Moscow TASS in English 1945 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

["Statement by the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party"--TASS headline]

[Text] Damascus, March 8, TASS--The Arab Socialist Renaissance Party sharply condemned the dangerous anti-Arab plans of U.S. imperialism, Israel and Egyptian President as-Sadat.

In a statement issued here on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the revolution of March 8, 1963, the leadership of the party called on the Arabs to enhance their vigilance in the face of those plans, to issue a resolute rebuff to the intrigues of the enemies of the Arab nation. Only in this way the Arabs can achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and realization of their national goals: unity, freedom and socialism, the statement stresses.

The document points to a great importance of the establishment of the front of struggle against the plans of the U.S.-Israeli-Egyptian alliance and notes the important contribution which was made to the cause of strengthening the front by the decisions of the Tripoli and Algiers conferences. The statement also gives a high appraisal of the results of the recent official friendly visit by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to the Soviet Union and his talks in Moscow, which contributed to increasing the struggle against the capitulatory versions of a settlement of the Middle East conflict.

MOSCOW MEETING ON SYRIAN ANNIVERSARY REPORTED

LD072022Y Moscow TASS in English 1923 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 7, TASS--A meeting was held here to mark Syria's national holiday, the 15th anniversary of the revolution. Mikhail Kondakov, vice-president of the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of the USSR and deputy president of the USSR-Syria Society, as well as other speakers stressed that the Soviet-Syrian links are based on the principles of equality, mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

The meeting was addressed by the Syrian Ambassador, Jabr al-Kafri, who stressed that the relations between the two countries are marked by friendship and cooperation. After the revolution of March 8, 1963, the links between Syria and the USSR in the political, economic and other fields assumed a broad and diversified character. The ambassador stressed that the Syrian people set great store by the Soviet support of the progressive Arab regimes.

LEBANESE PATRIOTIC FORCES ISSUE STATEMENT ON CONFLICT

LD081146Y Moscow TASS in English 1055 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, March 8, TASS--An agreement of all the sides involved in the conflict in Lebanon on the principles of the country's unity, its democratic development, as well as on means of effective struggle against Israeli provocations must serve as a basis for a lasting political settlement of the conflict in that country, says the statement issued here by the leadership of the Lebanese national patriotic forces. The document stresses that the national patriotic forces consider necessary the participation of all the political forces in the dialogue with the aim of hammering out such an agreement.

TURKISH PRIME MINISTER COMMENTS ON TIES WITH U.S., USSR

LD072100Y Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Paris, March 7, TASS--The Turkish Prime Minister, Bulent Ecevit, gave an interview to LE FIGARO newspaper in which he dwelt on aspects of his government's foreign policy.

On Turkish-Soviet relations he said there was no doubt that the economic cooperation between the two countries could improve the political relations between them. Any country should promote friendly relations with its neighbours. Besides, lessening of international tensions is very important for us. B. Ecevit spoke of the need to revise Turkey's relations with the European Economic Community stressing that the Common Market should not be a burden for Turkey. Much of the interview was devoted to Turkey's participation in NATO and her commitments within the framework of that bloc. The prime minister admitted that the disproportionate military expenses place a heavy burden on the Turkish economy. According to Ecevit, Turkey's economy cannot be further weakened in order to strengthen her military capability.

DISMISSALS AT U.S. BASES IN GREECE TRIGGER CONTROVERSY

LD082222Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] According to reports from Athens, the Greek service staff at American military bases in Greece is on strike. The strikers are protesting the decision of the U.S. military authorities to dismiss a considerable part of the technical workers employed at the bases. This small, in size, dispute has attracted the attention of the broad public in Greece, our observer notes. The point is that the American military authorities are dismissing working people on Greek soil, and in doing so are grossly violating the labor legislation of a sovereign state. The Greek Government is powerless to defend the rights of its citizens. This is a strange situation if one considers the fact that, according to official assertions by Athens, the U.S. military bases in Greece are under Greek control. The democratic press of Greece asks a reasonable question: What constitutes government control over the American military installations if even in labor relations, which are far from grave military-political issues, the foreign military clique pays little attention to Greek opinion?

The paper RIZOSPASTIS, organ of the Greek Communist Party, draws the totally natural conclusion that the power of the Karamanlis cabinet in relation to the American bases is actually extremely limited and statements by the official authorities about Greek control over them are intended only to assuage the opposition in the country to the foreign military presence. Thus, the labor dispute at the American bases has again touched on the issue--which is a very acute one for the Greeks--of the deployment of foreign troops in the country. It has revealed the flimsy nature of the Greek Government's position on this matter and has shown that the activity of the transatlantic military clique in the country is virtually uncontrollable and leads to infringement of national sovereignty. There is no doubt that the Greek public's realization of this situation will promote the strengthening of the movement in Greece for the elimination of the Pentagon's bases--a movement that already involves broad sections of the population.

The results of the latest parliamentary elections in Greece, in which the leftwing forces opposing the subordination of the country's national interests to the militaristic plans of the transatlantic and NATO hawks and supporting peace and neighborliness in the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean achieved considerable success, testify to this unambiguously.

SOUTH AFRICAN AIRCRAFT VIOLATE ANGOLAN AIRSPACE

LD081518Y Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, March 8, TASS--In the first half of February, military aircraft of the Republic of South Africa penetrated Angola's air space three times and made flights over its territory. This is stated in the communique issued here today by the PRA Ministry of Defence.

Violations of the PRA's air space were recorded in the areas of the towns of Chamutete, (Huila Province), Cayundo (Cuando Cubango Province), and in Calueque in the country's south.

OPENING OF REGULAR ISRAEL-SOUTH AFRICA AIR SERVICE NOTED

LD011614Y Moscow TASS in English 1541 GMT 1 Mar 78 LD

["Disgraceful Alliance"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 1 TASS--Israel and South Africa are establishing a political and military alliance based on their common struggle against the national liberation movement and their build-up of armaments including nuclear arms, IZVESTIYA says, commenting on the opening of regular air service between Israel and South Africa.

"Political observers say that international imperialism intends to use the Pretoria-Tel Aviv axis first of all for its selfish aims. The Zionist and the racist states are regarded as a 'vanguard force' that would protect the interests of the Western monopolies in the Middle East and the African Continent, as a 'regional police force' for struggle against the Arab and African peoples who have shaken off the fetters of colonialism and have taken the road of independent development."

The El Al plane which landed in Johannesburg is not the first sign of growing alliance between Israel and South Africa. The Israeli extremists and the racist regime in Pretoria are cooperating in various fields. This cooperation harbours a serious threat for the developing countries that is the reason why a wave of protests against the collusion of the Zionists and racists is rising in the African Continent, in the Arab countries.

LESOTHO UN DELEGATE PROTESTS SOUTH AFRICA BLACKMAIL

LD081406Y Moscow TASS in English 1326 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] New York, March 8, TASS--In violation of the U.N. Charter, the racialist Pretoria authorities have recourse to acts of blackmail and pressure on the neighbour African states condemning the apartheid policies. The note by permanent representative of Lesotho to the United Nations organization addressed to U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, which was circulated here, says that the South African Republic has unilaterally blocked the southeastern border of this landlocked state bordering on the South African Republic on all sides. Thus, as is noted here, Pretoria is trying to make Lesotho recognize the pseudostate Transkei, one of the "Bantustans" of South Africa, bordering on it.

The South African authorities, the note says, do not allow Lesotho citizens to return to their homeland, which is described in the note as crude violation of the generally accepted standards of international law. These hostile acts of the racialist regime of the South African Republic, the note stresses, create a threat to Lesotho's territorial integrity and stability.

ZIMBABWE FRONT TO CONTINUE STRUGGLE AGAINST SMITH

LD091000Y Moscow TASS in English 0840 GMT 9 Mar 78 LD

[Text] New York, March 9, TASS--The Zimbabwe Patriotic Front is resolved to carry on the struggle until the unlawful racialists Smith regime is liquidated. A statement to this effect was made by leaders of the Patriotic Front Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe at a press-conference here. They strongly condemned the disgraceful collusion in Salisbury between racialist chief Smith and the handful of African puppet figures on the so-called "internal settlement". Smith and his accomplices, Joshua Nkomo said, are trying to mislead by their manoeuvres the independent African states and world public opinion, which are siding with the long suffering Zimbabwe people. But the Zimbabwe people shed blood not in order to be deceived by the subterfuges of the racialists and their puppets. This "agreement" is false and invalid. We again reaffirm our intention to step up the armed struggle for national liberation and founding an independent African Zimbabwe state.

Nkomo and Mugabe noted that the deal in Salisbury constitutes a grave potential threat to the freedom of the whole of Africa to the cause of international peace. They also strongly criticised the stand of the USA and Britain, which approved the collusion between Smith and the racialists reached behind the back of the Zimbabwe people and the Patriotic Front. We are determined to frustrate this collusion of the forces of racialism and international imperialism directed at perpetuating the racialist-colonialist order, Nkomo and Mugabe said. The leaders of the Patriotic Front expressed gratitude to the socialist countries and all progressive forces of the world giving all-round support to the struggle of the Zimbabwe people for independence.

MATERIAL ON CPSU DELEGATION VISITING MOZAMBIQUE

Meeting with Machel

LD070831Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Maputo, 2 March TASS--S. Machel, chairman of the Mozambique Liberation Front [FRELIMO] party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, received a CPSU delegation headed by A.V. Vlasov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Chechenko-Ingushskiy CPSU Obkom, which is here at the invitation of the leadership of the FRELIMO party. S. Machel expressed profound satisfaction at the successful development of ties between the FRELIMO party and the CPSU and between Mozambique and the Soviet Union. He described FRELIMO's activity in fulfilling the tasks of building the basis of socialism in Mozambique and dwelt in detail on questions of training party cadres.

Return to Moscow

LD081413Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[Text] A CPSU delegation headed by A.V. Vlasov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Checheno-Ingushkiy CPSU Obkom, which was in Mozambique at the invitation of the Mozambique Liberation Front party leadership, returned to Moscow on 5 March.

MASHEROV CHAIRS BODY ON DRAFT BELORUSSIAN CONSTITUTION

ID080953Y Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 28 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Text] BELTA--On 27 February, a Belorussian Constitutional Commission session was held under the chairmanship of Comrade P.M. Masherov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee and chairman of the commission to prepare the draft of the new Belorussian constitution.

The commission examined the draft of the new Belorussian constitution.

The session was addressed by Comrade P.M. Masherov.

The following took part in discussion of the draft new Belorussian Constitution: V.A. Mikulich, first secretary of Minskiy Obkom; K.V. Matyushevskiy, chairman of Brestskiy Oblispolkom; A.A. Zdanovich, Belorussian minister of justice; M.S. Petrovich, worker at the 25th CPSU Congress Integral Production Association; K.M. Platonov, first secretary of the Belorussian Komsomol Central Committee; N.I. Afanasyev, director of the 60th anniversary of Great October Gomselmash plant; Hero of Socialist Labor Ye. I. Skurko (Maksim Tank), chairman of the Belorussian Writers Union Board.

The commission basically approved the draft of the new Belorussian constitution and ordered that it be submitted to the republican Supreme Soviet Presidium with a proposal that the draft Belorussian constitution be published for nationwide discussion.

KIRILLIN, RASHIDOV ADDRESS TASHKENT AWARD MEETING

ID081425Y Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 26 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Excerpts] UZTAG--For the fifth time Uzbekistan has been awarded a CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banner.

A meeting of the republic party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol aktiv with the participation of foremost workers of industrial and agricultural production was held yesterday in Tashkent's Palace of Art. The meeting was devoted to the presentation of the high award. The participants in the assembly of skilled workers in farming and livestock raising, which has just ended, were also in the palace hall.

Academician V.A. Kirillin, member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Committee on Science and Technology, mounted the rostrum. He said that the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banner award to Uzbekistan is the remarkable result of the selfless creative labor of the workers, kolkhoz members, engineers, scientists and all the working people of Uzbekistan. It is also the result of the tremendous mass political and organizational work by Uzbek party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations.

On the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, the Komsomol Central Committee and Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, V.A. Kirillin warmly and sincerely congratulated the meeting participants, and through them, all the workers of Uzbekistan on their well-deserved award. He then wished them further successes in their work, great new labor victories, health and personal happiness.

Uzbekistan's successes, the deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers went on to say, please all Soviet people. Remarkable victories have been secured in the struggle to implement the 25th CPSU Congress decisions. Quantitatively and qualitatively the republic's economy has risen to a new and higher level. There is no doubt that the Uzbek workers, agricultural workers and working intelligentsia are doing everything possible to successfully fulfill and overfulfill the targets of the third year of the 5-year plan.

To tumultuous prolonged applause V.A. Kirillin presented the high award to the republic.

The meeting was addressed by Sh.R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee. On behalf of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee, the Uzbekistan Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers and all Uzbek working people, four times winner of the Challenge Red Banner, he sincerely thanked the CPSU Central Committee; Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, personally; the Government of the Soviet Union; the AUCCTU, and the Komsomol Central Committee for their high assessment of the republic's successes in the competition to raise production efficiency and work quality and in the successful fulfillment of the targets and socialist pledges adopted in the year of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

In his speech, Sh.R. Rashidov described the primary tasks facing Uzbekistan's workers in the third year of the 5-year plan. The republic has adopted high socialist pledges. Industrial workers have resolved to complete the yearly plan by 21 December. Our glorious cotton workers have given their word to sell at least 5,750,000 tons of raw cotton to the state. These pledges ring out like a watchword, a call sign to storm the planned heights.

The results of January and February attest that the republic's working class has made a good start. Do not stop at what has been achieved; go further; achieve more; utilize reserves more fully; fulfill the monthly and quarterly targets systematically; work efficiently and smoothly without hold-ups--these demands must become an immutable law for the activity of every worker and every worker collective. A great deal now depends on the agricultural workers. Livestock wintering is coming to an end and the sowing of vegetables and grain crops is beginning. In a month's time, sowing teams and cotton growers will go out into the fields. We must double and triple efforts on farms, workshops and fields; prepare cotton plants for sowing in exemplary fashion, and carry it out in an organized way, within time and to a high agrotechnical standard. The Challenge Red Banner will spur all Uzbek workers onto new labor victories and glorious achievements. In response to the motherland's award we must raise the banner of socialist competition even higher; make 1978 a year of shock labor; successfully fulfill and overfulfill the plans and socialist pledges, and thereby raise the contribution to implementing the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress even higher.

RASHIDOV ADDRESSES 25 FEB FARMING CONFERENCE IN TASHKENT

LD081631Y Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 26 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Excerpts] UZTAG, 25 February--Yesterday, the Tashkent Palace of Arts was filled with representatives of all oblasts and the Karakalpakskaya ASSR--winners of the socialist competition to increase agricultural production in 1977, kolkhoz members and sovkhoz workers who add to Uzbekistan's glory with their heroic labor. The seats in the presidium were occupied by Sh. R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee; Academician V.A. Kirillin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Committee on Science and Technology; members and candidate members of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee Bureau I.T. Anisimkin, S.Ye. Belonozhko, L.I. Grekov, Yu. R. Kurbanov, N.M. Matchanov, M.M. Musakhanov, T.N. Osetrov, A.U. Salimov, A.A. Khozzhayev, K. Kamalov, N. Makhmudov, E.B. Nordman, G.M. Orlov and S.U. Sultanova; A.S. Abdalin, deputy chairman of the Uzbekistan Supreme Soviet Presidium; R.Kh. Abdullayeva, K.A.Akhmedov, S. Mamarasulov, M.D. Mukhortov, M.T. Tursunov and A.R. Khodzhayev, deputy chairmen of the Uzbekistan Council of Ministers; S.Z. Shpilevoy, responsible worker of the CPSU Central Committee, N.A. Stolbushkin, USSR deputy minister of agriculture; A.Ya. Kolotko, Belorussian minister of procurement.

A long speech was delivered at the meeting by Sh. R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee. He dwelt on the tasks facing the republic's agricultural workers, and particularly stressed that the way to reach new heights in labor and make effective use of all reserves is indicated in the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) Plenum; the speech by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium at the plenum; and the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komosomol Central Committee letter on socialist competition. The main thing is to give the motherland more "white gold" by further increasing the yield of the cotton fields. It is important to raise the standard of cropgrowing in every way and to persistently and broadly disseminate the experience of innovators and the achievements of agrarian science. It is also necessary to struggle persistently for an increase in yield and an improvement in livestock raising work and other sectors of agricultural production. The leading workers motto "Not a Single Laggard" must play an important role in the development of cottongrowing. Tutorship and patronage assistance must be broadly developed. Interfarm cooperation and production specialization-concentration must be improved and comprehensive mechanization more boldly introduced in cropgrowing and livestock raising. Using all potentials and reserves, kolkhoz and sovkhoz working people will be able to mark the third year of the 5-year plan with new labor victories.

RSFSR PAPER ON SHORTCOMINGS IN FARMS' USE OF FUELS

LD080911Y Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 4 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[I. Nivan agricultural review: "Saving Fuel"]

[Excerpt] Purposeful work on the rational use and correct storage of petroleum products is being performed on the farms of the Leningradskaya, Moskovskaya and Kaliningradskaya oblasts, Stavropolskiy Kray, and the Tatarskaya ASSR. A considerable savings in fuel is being achieved here year after year.

At the same time there are still serious shortcomings in the management of gasoline stores. A check carried out by the organs of the State Agricultural Technical Inspectorate established numerous examples of poor storage and utilization of petroleum products on certain kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Kostromskaya, Orlovskaya, Tulskaya and Penzenskaya oblasts and in the Buryatskaya ASSR. The gasoline depots at certain farms do not meet modern requirements.

The Collegium of the RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture recently discovered great ommissions in utilizing, storing, rationing and inventoring petroleum products in Novgorodskaya Oblast. A number of rayispolkom agricultural production administrations and many kolkhozes and sovkhozes are not paying enough attention to this important matter. As a result of this, there has been an excessive expenditure of diesel fuel and gasoline.

About 60 percent of fuels and lubricants are still being dispensed by the open method, which leads to a considerable waste of petroleum products. Instances of fuel losses as a result of leakage due to petroleum equipment faults have been established. Construction of new gasoline and oil stations and modernization of existing ones are being carried out very slowly. In the oblast, about 90 percent of petroleum products are still stored at adapted depots; because of the small capacity of these depots, it is impossible to create the necessary fuel stocks for the uninterrupted functioning of the machine and tractor pool at busy perods.

As the check has shown, in the Mordovskaya ASSR and Kurskaya and Voronezhskaya oblasts, certain farms use diesel fuel for purposes for which it is not intended. The State Agricultural Technical Inspectorate organs and People's Control organs must keep a more attentive eye on the correct expenditure of petroleum products and make those responsible for the squandering accountable.

Workers of the Selkhoztekhnika associations deserve a serious rebuke. At the present time, they are giving kolkhozes and sovkhozes little assistance in organizing refuelling equipment repairs or in carrying out technical servicing of petroleum depots. They have also failed to organize centralized deliveries of fuels and lubricants.

The correct technical operation of equipment at petroleum facilities and of the fuel apparatus in machine and tractor pools, and also the fulfillment of the rules relating to the storage, transportation and expenditure of petroleum products, depend to a great extent on the people entrusted with these responsible work sectors and on their level of knowledge.

Organizing a struggle for the rational use of fuels and lubricants is not solely the business of the agricultural organs. The greatest success in solving this important state task is being achieved in those places where questions of economy and thrift are constantly kept in the view of the party and soviet organs and the public at large.

Spring fieldwork will soon be under way on the RSFSR's kolkhozes and sovkhozes. It is now essential to determine ways of saving on petroleum products, devise methods for providing moral and material incentives for the most zealous tractor and truck drivers, and mount socialist competition for economy and thrift in every kolkhoz, sovkhoz and team. At the same time, each worker's responsibility for efficiency in the use of fuel resources should be raised. The interests of the matter demand this.

MORAVA EXPERIMENT CONDUCTED BY CZECH COSMONAUT

LD060554Y Moscow TASS in English 0521 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 6 TASS--The Morava experiment is an important link in the advanced quest for new materials and alloys for optical electronics, PRAVDA's correspondent notes today. The experiment in outer space, which has been entrusted to Czechoslovak Cosmonaut Vladimir Remek, is being carried out in Splav-01 equipment. This set of capsules for it was made at the Solid State Physics Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. Each of the capsules contains two quarts ampules with the source substance.

The Morava experiment will last almost two days. It is hoped that under the conditions of weightlessness, the process of smelting will impart to the materials qualities that are difficult or even impossible to obtain under the terrestrial conditions.

EXPERIMENTS CONTINUE ON BOARD SPACE COMPLEX

LD071338Y Moscow TASS in English 1124 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 7, TASS--TASS special correspondent reports from the Flight Control Centre: The international crew--Yuriy Romanenko, Georgiy Grechko, Aleksey Gubarev and Vladimir Remek--continue implementing the program of work on board the orbital scientific research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28. The joint Soviet-Czechoslovak experiment Morava with the use of the Splav unit was completed yesterday. Electrooptical silver chlorides, lead chlorides, and copper-and-lead chlorides were chosen for the research. This experiment was carried out with the purpose of solving topical scientific and technical problems, specifically obtaining the date needed for the creation of new materials in the conditions of weightlessness to used in contemporary technology.

Under the program of exploration of environment in the interests of science and different branches of the national economy, cosmonaut-researcher Vladimir Remek conducted observations over glaciers and snow cover of different areas of the earth. Today the crew carry and arrange on board the Soyuz-28 spaceship materials of the research that was carried out and recoverable equipment, do exercises and conduct television reportages. In the second half of the day, the cosmonauts will carry out further operations on board the orbital complex and biological experiments chlorella.

According to the data of telemetric information and reports of the crew, the onboard systems of the station and both ships function normally. The cosmonauts feel well.

SOVIET, CSSR OFFICIALS COMMENT ON SPACE EXPERIMENTS

LD071440Y Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 7, TASS--The special TASS correspondent reports from the Flight Control Center. The third month of the work in outer space of the main crew of the Salyut-6 orbital station is drawing to a close, yet the earth-orbit communications line remains very busy. The newcomers of the international crew added to the work of those who control the flight and those who consult the cosmonauts in their scientific experiments. To the experiments and observations, conducted by Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko, a no less crowded schedule was added--the programme entrusted to Aleksey Guabrev and Vladimir Remek.

Many of these experiments were prepared jointly by scientists and specialists of the USSR and Czechoslovakia. Vaclav Tumba, corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences of the CSSR, said: The fact that the Soviet Union made available such unique space equipment as the present modification of the Salyut for joint researchers by socialist countries in outer space shows that really, breath-taking prospects are opening up to the Academies of Sciences of the friendly countries. We are, of course, glad that the latest upward flight of our cooperation on cosmic orbits take place with the participation of a Czechoslovak cosmonaut. But the Salyut could just as successfully carry cosmonauts from Poland, the GDR, or any other country actively participating in the joint researchers.

Tumba, as an astrophysicist, described the exciting observation of the stars conducted by Gubarev and Remek. The cosmonauts used the stars as bright enough but not blinding (like the sun or the moon) source of light, which setting behind the horizon of the earth, modifies its brightness and this conveys information on the state of the dense layers of tne atmosphere. Gubarev and Remek had been given detailed maps of the stellar sky and a clear-cut observation programme for almost each orbit over various regions of the globe.

Dr Ales Tricka, Institute of Solid-State Physics of the Academy of Sciences of the CSSR, said: We have been cooperating for a long time with Soviet physicists in the investigation of the structure of rare metals and alloys and eagerly watched the work of Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko with the Splav-01 electro-furance. In it they are growing rare crystals in conditions of weightlessness. The conditions of weightlessness and almost ideal vacuum, which outer space offers at altitudes of 200-300 kilometers, are extremely favorable for such technological processes which need ideal mixing of alloy components or even process of crystallisation free of gravitation.

After receiving the first "invitation to outer space", the Czechoslovak laboratory asked the cosmonauts to conduct an experiment in the electro-furnace of growing crystals which would have high electro-optical properties. Two ampules with samples and a programme control unit were prepared for this work. The purpose of the experiment is to ascertain the possibility of obtaining materials for electronics and optics, unique in their purity, in conditions of weightlessness. We eagerly watched from the surface how Vladimir Remek opened the airlock hatch where the electro-furnace had been placed, and put an ampule into it. At the end of the fourth day of the work of the international crew on orbit, the cosmonauts reported that the Morava experiment in the Soviet electro-heating furnace Splav-01 had been successful completed. Vladimir Remek said he would be glad to hand the precious crystals to scientists from the Space Research Institute in Moscow and the Solid-Physics Institute in Prague within a few days.

EXPERIMENTS CONTINUE, ORBITAL PARAMETERS REPORTED

LD081210Y Moscow TASS in English 1139 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 8, TASS--A TASS special correspondent reports from the Flight Control Centre:

The orbital flight of the manned research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28 is continuing. According to the data of trajectory measurements, the orbital parameters of the complex are: maximum distance from the earth's surface--357 kilometers, minimum distance from the earth's surface--338 kilometres, period of revolution--91.3 minutes and inclination of the orbit--51.6 degrees.

Today, Yuriy Romanenko, Georgiy Grechko, Aleksey Gubarev and Vladimir Remek are having a day of active rest. The cosmonauts are systematizing the results of the experiments carried out, are doing physical exercises in the complex trainer and veloergometer, are cleaning the work compartments and preparing materials of research and mail for sending to earth. Radio programs and music are broadcast to the orbital complex.

According to the figures of telemetric information and reports of the crew, the on-board systems of the complex are functioning normally, the parameters of microclimate in the work compartments are close to the terrestrial ones. Romanenko, Grechko, Gubarev and Remek feel well.

The flight of the orbital complex Salyuz-6-Soyuz-27-Soyuz-28 is continuing.

FLIGHT TRAINING CENTER CHIEF ON SOCIALIST COOPERATION

LD081442Y Moscow TASS in English 1419 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 8, TASS--TASS special correspondent Nikolay Zheleznov writes:

Over the seventeen years that have passed since the Gagarin Cosmonauts' Training Centre near Moscow was founded, more than fifty cosmonauts have been trained there for space flights. Forty-four of them already have a space flight experience. In the spring of 1978 in the Zvezdny Gorodok (Star City) there occurred an event which elevated this unusual training centre to the status of international space academy--the first group of socialist countries' citizens who took a course of training in cosmonautics were graduated. One of the graduates, Vladimir Remek, is already in orbit among the international crew aboard the Salyut-6 orbital station.

Air Force Lieutenant General Georgiy Beregovoi, head of the training centre, said all the eight countries which participate together with the USSR in the joint research under the Intercosmos program responded with gratitude to the proposal to start the training of socialist countries' citizens for flights on board Soviet spaceships and stations. The examinations which six cosmonauts of the first entrolment (from Czechoslovakia, Poland, and the GDR) took in February showed that they all learned the course of cosmonautics and are prepared for practical participation in work in orbit.

The already tried-and-tested way has been used to hasten the training: Professional airpilots who have a sound health and who masterly wield the art of piloting aircraft were invited for the studies. In result, practically in half-a year's time all the students assimilated the theoretical course and started working on a concrete flight among an international crew. Two candidates from each country arrived in the Star City. Together with Vladimir Remek, for example, his fellow countrymen Oldrizich Pelczak, who worked in a back-up crew together with his commander pilot cosmonaut of the USSR Nikolay Rukavishnikov, was in pre-launch readiness to the very last day.

Beregovoi pointed out that each flight enriches not only the practice of cosmonauts but also introduces an advance in space science. Therefore, the working reports of cosmonauts with space-flight experience are the main instructional aid. For practical exercises there exist about responsible stages of flight are practiced and the skill of controlling the spacecraft is polished. Besides, there are training rounds in various geographical belts of the country, in the north and in the south, in the mountains and in the desert, where there is an opportunity to simulate cosmonauts' actions in unusual landing conditions.

Among instructors Beregovoi mentioned first of all those who in their time trailblazed the first path ways in space. Among them are Vladimir Shatalov, Aleksey Yeliseyev, Konstantin Feoktistov, Aleksey Leonov, Pavel Popovich and others. Many of them became doctors and candidates of science. Georgiy Beregovoi forecast a hot cosmic summer for the Star City. Cosmonauts of Poland and the GDR who are already completing their course of training among crews are to make flights this year. The second enrollment of students--citizens of Bulgaria, Hungary, Cuba, Mongolia and Rumania--will be admitted soon.

INTERNATIONAL SPACE CONFERENCE HELD IN TOULOUSE

LD080950Y Moscow TASS in English 0847 GMT 8 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Paris, March 8, TASS--TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Korzhev reports: The international conference on exploration of the earth from outer space and management of natural resources is continuing in Toulouse.

Over the last decade, the methods of exploration of the earth's surface by means of artificial earth satellites and space laboratories have proved to be exceptionally effective, making it possible to explore in detail and within a very short time vast territories and collect most precious data in the field of geography, geology, meteorology, the use of agricultural, forestry, water and other natural resources. The exchange of information coming from outer space is of exceptionally great significance both for the developed and the developing countries. It opens new possibilities in their economic development and planning. These topical issues are being discussed by 400 scientists and specialists in various fields from 31 countries of Europe, Asia, Africa and America who came together in Toulouse.

The report on the subject "The Experience of Exploration of the Earth from Outer Space carried Out by the Academy of Sciences of the USSR" delivered by head of the Soviet delegation, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences Andrey Kapitsa was met with great attention at the conference. The second report on photographic and electronic methods of exploration of natural resources is to be made by representative of the USSR Institute of Outer Space Explorations Viktor Yegorov.

INTERCOSMOS OFFICIAL ON PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS, PROSPECTS

LD081101Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[Article by Academician B. Petrov, chairman of the Intercosmos Council under the USSR Academy of Sciences: "New Stage of Cooperation"]

[Text] A new step has been taken in space research and exploration. For the first time an international crew has been launched into space in one craft and boarded an orbiting station. In accordance with the Intercosmos program, which the nine socialist community countries have now been implementing for more than 10 years, flights by international crews consisting of a Soviet cosmonaut (flight commander) and a cosmonaut-researcher (a citizen of another socialist country participating in the Intercosmos program) are beginning. This flight marks the transition to an important new stage in the development of international cooperation in investigating and utilizing space.

The honor of opening a new page in the history of manned spaceflights has fallen to a crew consisting of Hero of the Soviet Union A. Gubarev, USSR pilot-cosmonaut and citizen of the Soviet Union, and Cosmonaut V. Remek, citizen of the CSSR.

Candidate cosmonauts--citizens of the Polish People's Republic and the GDR--are also completing training and all the necessary exercises at the Yu.A. Gagarin cosmonaut training center. Candidate cosmonauts from Bulgaria, Hungary, Cuba, Mongolia, Romania--all the countries participating in the Intercosmos program--are also undergoing medical investigation. They will make flights in Soviet spacecraft and orbiting stations before 1983.

How were conditions created for the implementation of a research program with the participation of international crews?

It is based on the successes of Soviet cosmonautics, particularly in conducting manned flights. New spacecraft were developed following Yuriy Gagarin's legendary trip and the flights in the Vostok and Voskhod spacecraft, which were prepared and carried out under the leadership of Academician S.P. Korolev. The series of Soyuz launches followed, each of which contributed something new and signified a new step in conducting scientific and scientific-technical research and in improving the craft and their onboard systems. Then orbiting scientific stations of the Salyut type, capable of working under both manned and automatic regimes, were created. These are entire laboratories--institutes in miniature, you might say, fitted with the most sophisticated equipment of which any scientific center on earth would be proud. However, these stations, and this should be emphasized, are designed for research which cannot be carried out under earth conditions.

The Soviet Union, motivated by the noble aims of further strengthening cooperation with the fraternal socialist states, suggested to all the countries participating in the Intercosmos program that Soviet spacecraft and orbiting stations conduct flights with the participation of citizens of those countries. This suggestion was accepted with satisfaction, and the first international crew is now conducting a program of joint experiments.

As long ago as 1967 scientists and specialists representing Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia adopted a program of multilateral cooperation in space which subsequently received the official title of the Intercosmos program. The main directions of joint work were determined: space physics, communications, meteorology, space biology and medicine and the study of natural resources.

The experiments conducted throughout this period have produced a number of important results which have made a valuable contribution to science and are of national economic significance. New information has been gained about the processes taking place on the sun and their influence on our planet's atmosphere, about the earth's magnetosphere and ionosphere and the electromagnetic links between them and about many processes in circumterrestrial space and the earth's upper atmosphere. This research has led to the discovery of a number of new phenomena. The first experiments have been carried out to study the influence of artificial gravity on experimental animals.

Cooperation in the sphere of space communications resulted in the creation of the Intersputnik international organization and space communications system in 1971.

Work is also developing successfully in meteorology--both in the interest of becoming further acquainted with atmospheric processes and to increase the accuracy of weather forecasts.

Research by biologists and medics is concerned with the elaboration of fundamental problems (the influence of flight factors on living organisms and the processes taking place at cell level); the study of methods to increase the organism's resistance to load factors after a long period of weightlessness, and the effect of comic radiation on the basis of using medical preparations.

Long-range analysis of the earth with the help of aerospace facilities to study our planet's natural resources has become one of the most important areas in recent years. The joint efforts of the socialist countries' specialists are aimed both at creating onboard appratus and at developing methods of interpreting space photographs of the earth's surface concerning the interests of different sectors of the national economy.

The special feature of most experiments conducted under the Intercosmos program is their comprehensive nature. Data from apparatus installed on board a satellite is supplemented by information from geophysical and meteorological rockets, as well as by observations using the facilities of ground observatories located on the territory of different countries. This provides a more complete picture of the processes being studied.

Each country participating in the Intercosmos program has made its contribution to the joint work. I will cite individual examples. Scientific instruments and apparatus created by specialists of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, the Slovak Academy of Sciences and higher educational institutions with the participation of industrial organizations have been installed on almost all satellites of the Intercosmos series and on six vertical geophysical rockets. Czechoslovak scientists have had a considerable hand in elaborating the experiments carried out with the help of the Cosmos-782 and Cosmos-936 biological satellites, as well as a number of other apparatuses launched under the Soviet national program, including the Prognoz-5 and Prognoz-6 stations.

Polish scientists and specialists have done a great deal to prepare experiments and create apparatus for the investigation of the earth's magnetosphere and ionosphere and sun-earth relations. Evidence of this is the Intercosmos Copernicus-500 satellite, which carried a complex of scientific apparatus developed by Polish and Soviet specialists.

The MKF-6 multizonal apparatus has been developed by Soviet and GDR specialists and manufactured at the Carl Zeiss-Jena people's enterprise. The camera underwent trials in September 1976 during the flight of the Soyuz-22 spacecraft manned by USSR pilot-cosmonauts V.F. Bykovskiy and V.V. Aksenov. The MKF-6 is designed to photograph the earth's surface in six bands of the spectrum in order to study natural resources. Synthesized color photographs provide useful information for geology, agriculture, oceanology and other sectors of science and the national economy. A modernized MKF-6M camera has been installed on board the Salyut-6 orbiting station.

Bulgarian scientists have to their credit a number of instruments for ionospheric research. Such experiments were conducted on the Intercosmos-8, 12 and 14 and other satellites.

USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS
SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

The creation of a unified telemetric system making it possible to transmit information from Intercosmos series satellites and to receive it on the territory of each of the nine countries was important work which combined the efforts of specialists of all the countries participating in the Intercosmos program.

The Intercosmos program routine entails the constant enlargement of cooperation and the implementation of ever-enlarging projects and more complex experiments. More than 10 years of conducting joint space research has demonstrated the effectiveness of the organizational forms and the promising nature of the chosen avenues of cooperation. Scientific space research centers have emerged and strengthened and groups of specialists have matured in the socialist countries over these years.

Representatives of the countries participating in the Intercosmos program signed the intergovernmental agreement on cooperation in investigating and utilizing space for peaceful purposes in Moscow 13 July 1976. The document emphasized the fraternal countries' desire to consolidate the accumulated experience of joint space research and to contribute in every possible way to the further development of cooperation in this sphere.

From automatic earth satellites to manned craft and then to long-term scientific orbiting stations with replaceable crews--this is the logic of the development of cosmonautics and man's highway into space. From this logic stems the law-governed initiative of the Soviet Union, which proposed the participation of citizens of the countries participating in the Intercosmos program in manned flights in Soviet craft and orbiting stations.

In December 1976, the first group of candidate cosmonauts--citizens of Czechoslovakia, Poland and the GDR (two candidates from each country)--started training at the Yu. A. Gagarin cosmonaut training center. Thanks to the high standard of scientific methods, the center's excellent technical equipment and the comradely assistance of Soviet cosmonauts, all six candidates were quickly trained to carry out flights.

The creation of a scientific orbiting manned complex from the Salyut-6 station and Soyuz craft, which replenishes its stocks with the help of the Progress automatic freight craft, is an excellent technical basis for the participation of citizens of the socialist countries in spaceflights.

The flight by an international crew consisting of cosmonauts from two fraternal socialist countries is the start of a new stage in the development of the Intercosmos program, an important step on the path of regular research with the participation of cosmonauts from different countries and a major contribution to world cosmonautics.

BRIEFS

RAYCHIKHINSK RADIO, TV STATION--More than 30,000 square meters of new housing have been supplied Raychikhinsk City residents since the beginning of the 10th 5-Year Plan period. A radio and television station and many other facilities were put into operation during the same period. [Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 23 Feb 78 OW]

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